Ph. (702) 605-3440

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#### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MMAWC, LLC, a Nevada limited
liability company; BRUCE DEIFIK, an
individual; and NANCY AND BRUCE
DEIFIK FAMILY PARTNERSHIP
LLLP, a Colorado limited liability
partnership,

**Appellants** 

v.

ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST and SHAWN WRIGHT as trustee of ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST; WSOF GLOBAL, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company,

Respondents.

Electronically Filed Aug 15 2018 11:15 a.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-17-764118-C

# **APPELLANTS' APPENDIX Volume 1 (part 3) of 2**

**Attorney For Appellants:** 

Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 7661

#### **KENNEDY & COUVILLIER, PLLC**

3271 E. Twain Ave.

Las Vegas, NV 89120

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mcouvillier@kclawnv.com

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NRAP 30

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EXHIBIT "B"

## **WSOF GLOBAL LLC**

New Search	Manage	this Business Calcula	ate List Fees Printer Friendly
<b>Business Entity</b>	Information		
Status:	Active	File Date:	2/2/2018
Type:	Foreign Limited-Liability Company	Entity Number:	
<b>Qualifying State:</b>	WY	List of Officers <u>Due:</u>	2/28/2019
Managed By:		<b>Expiration Date:</b>	
NV Business ID:	NV20181086427	Business License Exp:	2/28/2019

Registered Agent Information			
Name:	MACK STEELE	Address 1:	3275 S JONES BLVD
Address 2:		City:	LAS VEGAS
State:	NV	Zip Code:	89146
Phone:		Fax:	
Mailing Address		Mailing Address	
1:		2:	
<b>Mailing City:</b>		Mailing State:	NV
Mailing Zip			
Code:			
Agent Type: Noncommercial Registered Agent			
View all business entities under this registered agent			

Financial Information		
No Par Share Count:	Capital Amount:	\$0
No stock records found for this company		

Officers			Include Inactive Officers
Manager - SHA	WN WRIGHT		
Address 1:	3275 S JONES BLVD #104	Address 2:	

City:	LAS VEGAS	State:	NV
Zip Code:	89146	Country:	
Status:	Active	Email:	

### **Actions\Amendments**

Click here to view 2 actions\amendments associated with this company

BLACK & LOBELLO

1 RPLY BLACK & LOBELLO 2 Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 7661 3 10777 West Twain Avenue, Third Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 4 Ph. (702) 869-8801 Fax (702) 869-2669 5 mcouvillier@blacklobello.law Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC L.L.C. 6 DISTRICT COURT 7 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 8 ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST and SHAWN CASE NO.: A-17-764118-C WRIGHT as trustee of ZION WOOD OBI WAN DISTRICT COURT DEPT: 27 TRUST; WSOF GLOBAL, LLC, a Wyoming 10 limited liability company, REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO 11 DISMISS COMPLAINT AND TO Plaintiffs, **COMPEL ARBITRATION** 12 13 MMAWC, LLC d/b/a WORLD SERIES OF Date: February 21, 2018 FIGHTING a Nevada limited liability company; 14 Time: 9:00 a.m. MMAX INVESTMENT PARTNERS, INC. dba 15 PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE, a Delaware corporation; BRUCE DEIFIK, an 16 individual; CARLOS SILVA, an individual; NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY 17 PARTNERSHIP LLLP, a Colorado limited liability partnership; KEITH REDMOND, an 18 individual; DOES I through X, inclusive; and 19 ROE Corporations XX through XXX, inclusive, 20 Defendants. 21 22 Plaintiffs do not dispute their claims are subject to arbitration. Instead, Plaintiffs argue 23 the subject Arbitration clause is somehow void under NRS 597.995 because they purportedly did 24 not specifically authorize it. As demonstrated below, Plaintiffs not only expressly authorized the 25 Arbitration clause, they participated in drafting it. Accordingly, the Court should dismiss the 26

Electronically Filed 2/15/2018 1:22 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

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Complaint and compel the mutually agreed, authorized and drafted Arbitration.

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#### I. The Arbitration Clause Was Negotiated, Jointly Drafted & Authorized By Defendants And Does Not Violate NRS 597.995

Plaintiffs' argument that their claims are somehow not subject to the Arbitration provision in the Licensing Agreement (Mot. Ex. 4) is unreasonable. Their claim that the Arbitration provision is somehow void because they did not "specifically authorized" it per NRS 597.995 is particularly mendacious. The Licensing Agreement, and its Arbitration provision, were negotiated and jointly drafted by Plaintiff Global, Global's predecessor, Global's controlling individuals, and their counsel.

The Licensing Agreement was entered into just two years ago, on February 19, 2016, between MMAWC and Global's predecessor, WSOF Global Limited.1 The Licensing Agreement was initially drafted by WSOF Global Limited's counsel, Byron Thomas, Esq., in late January 2016. Mr. Thomas is also counsel of record of plaintiffs Global and Zion in the above-captioned matter. On January 26, 2016, counsel for MMAWC, Christopher Childs, Esq. responded to Mr. Thomas with several edits to Mr. Thomas' initial draft. Included in such edits was the addition of the Arbitration clause at Paragraph 18 of the Licensing Agreement. In addition to Mr. Thomas, his client and Zion's control person (Vince Hesser)2 were also included among the recipients of Mr. Childs' January 26, 2016, response and inclusion of the Arbitration clause. Mr. Childs' January 26 response further confirms the conference call scheduled among the parties to discuss the Licensing Agreement, and various related documents, stating:

Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com> Tue, Jan 26, 2016 at 11:55
To: Vince Hesser <vincehesser@yahoo.com>, "Antony M. Santos" <tony@amsantoslaw.com>, Byron Thomas
<br/>
cyronthomaslaw@gmail.com>
Cc: Keith Redmond <ehiptermond@mac.com>, Carlos Silva <carlos@wsof.com>, Bruce Deifik <br/>
bruce Deifik <br/>
com>, Bruce Deifik 
com>, Bruce Deifik 
com>, Bruce Deifik 
com>, Bruce Deifik 
com>, Bruce Deifik

Attached is a redline of the license against the last draft that Byron sent me. Although I have reviewed the document you proposed with Keith Redmond, I have not had the chance to review it in detail with Carlos Silva or Bruce Deifik. Hopefully the attached draft and redline help move along our 1:30 toward a resolution.

Please use the following dial-in information for the call.

Dial in: 760-569-7171 Access Code: 207 555 532

Thank you, Chris

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road. Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Email: chris@childswatson.com Office: 702-848-4533 Mobile: 702-606-1034

According to Plaintiffs, Global's successor is WSOF Global Limited. See 11/3/17 Compl. at ¶50. <sup>2</sup> See 11/3/17 Compl. at ¶5.

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The addition of the Arbitration was prominently identified in distinctive blue, underlined font that stood apart from the original text drafted by Mr. Thomas:

Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim or eauses of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby), which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award. or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section, then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

See Exhibit 5 at page 13.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> MMAWC's motion primarily challenges subject matter jurisdiction and seeks dismissal based on the parties' mutually agreed Arbitration agreement and thus, the Court may property consider the emails exchanged with Plaintiffs' counsel, Mr. Thomas, without converting MMAWC's motion to dismiss into a motion for summary judgment. "In a motion to dismiss based primarily on lack of subject matter jurisdiction... the Court may receive, among other forms of competent evidence, affidavits to resolve any factual dispute. The consideration of such evidence does not convert a motion to dismiss into one for summary judgment." Sudano v. Fed. Airports Corp., 699 F. Supp. 824, 825-26 (D. Haw. 1988)(citing Biotics Research Corp. v. Heckler, 710 F.2d 1375, 1379 (9th Cir. 1983); Nat'l Expositions, Inc. v. DuBois, 605 F.Supp. 1206, 1207-8 n. 2 (W.D.Pa.1985). Attached as Exhibit 8 is a Declaration from Christopher Childs authenticating Exhibits 5, 6 and 7.

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Mr. Thomas responded to Mr. Childs' revision on January 29, 2016. In his email, Mr. Thomas stated that: (a) his clients had reviewed Mr. Childs' January 26 draft of the Licensing Agreement (which included the Arbitration clause); and (b) he had some changes to the revised draft:

Byron Thomas <br/>
Spyronthomaslaw@gmail.com> Fri, Jan 29, 2016 at 6:03 PM To: Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com>, Max Couvillier <mcouvillier@blacklobellolaw.com>

Chris it has taken longer to get this done than I thought. My clients are giving it one more look over, but I want to get something to you today.

#### 3 attachments

- 2Operating Agreement of MMAWC (4th AR) 012716a.docx
- 실 2Amendment to Consulting and License Agrmt 012816redline.docx 34K
- 2Settlement Agreement 012816red.docx 47K

See Exhibit 6 at p. 1, which is a true and correct copy of Mr. Thomas' email of January 29, 2016.

Neither Mr. Thomas nor his clients objected to the Arbitration clause; nor expressed any concerns that the clause did not comply with NRS 597.995 or was otherwise unenforceable. On the contrary, Mr. Thomas made edited the Arbitration Provision to, ironically, broadened the scope of the Arbitration provision:

Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim, uncured breach or any other causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby). which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction. subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award, or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute. common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section. then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

[signature page follows]

See Exhibit 6 at p. 12.

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On February 10, 2016, Mr. Thomas confirmed that his clients, including WSOF Global Limited, accepted the revised Licensing Agreement, including the Arbitration clause:

> On Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 12:09 PM, Byron Thomas <byronthomaslaw@gmail.com> wrote: Hello Chris. Have you guys had a chance to look at the documents? I know there was a delay on our part in getting them back to you, but we pretty much accepted all of Chris's changes from his last version, so I thought we would get this done in a day or so. If that is not going to happen please let me know. Deadlines in the litigation were pushed out until this Friday and I need to know if we are back in litgation [sic] mode. Thanks.

See Exhibit 7 at p. 2, which is a true and correct copy of Mr. Thomas' email of February 10, 2016.

Shortly thereafter, the Licensing Agreement was signed by Shawn Wright on behalf of WSOF Global Limited, as President of WSOF Global Limited. Mr. Wright is also the Managing Member of plaintiff Global (Plts.' Oppn. at Exhibit B) and the control person and trustee of plaintiff Zion (11/3/17 Compl. at  $\P 5$ ).

To the extent that NRS 597.995 could have any application here (which it does not, see infra.), there is absolutely no reasonable doubt that that Plaintiffs were given notice and specifically authorized and agreed to the Arbitration provision in the Licensing Agreement as otherwise required by NRS 597.995. Global (and Mr. Wright) were not only represented by Attorney Thomas in negotiating the Licensing Agreement and Arbitration clause, but Attorney Thomas himself jointly drafted the Licensing Agreement and a part of the Arbitration clause.

#### NRS 597.995 Violates The Federal Arbitration Act And Does Not Preclude II. Arbitration Of Plaintiffs' Claims

In Fat Hat, LLC v. DiTerlizzi - relied on by Plaintiffs - the Nevada Supreme Court alluded to the fact that NRS 597.995 violates the Federal Arbitration Act:

> Fat Hat makes no argument that the Federal Arbitration Act. 9 U.S.C. § 1, et seq., applies. We therefore do not address NRS

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597.995's validity or application under the FAA. But see Doctor's Associates, Inc. v. Casarotto, 517 U.S. 681, 683 (1996).

Id., 385 P.3d 580, 2016 WL 5800335 \*1, n. 1 (Nev. 2016).

The Nevada Supreme Court is indeed correct, NRS 597.995 is displaced and preempted by the Federal Arbitration Act ("FAA"), 9 U.S.C. §1 et seq. Section 2 of the FAA provides:

> A written provision in any maritime transaction or a contract evidencing a transaction involving commerce to settle by arbitration a controversy thereafter arising out of such contract or transaction, or the refusal to perform the whole or any part thereof. or an agreement in writing to submit to arbitration an existing controversy arising out of such a contract, transaction, or refusal, shall be valid, irrevocable, and enforceable, save upon such grounds as exist at law or in equity for the revocation of any contract.

*Id.* (emphasis added).

In Doctor's Assocs., Inc. v. Casarotto, 517 U.S. 681, 116 S. Ct. 1652 (1996), the authority cited by the Nevada Supreme Court in Fat Hat, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that the FAA applies to state courts and trumps any state statute (like NRS 597.995) which single out arbitration provisions to void them in otherwise valid contracts. Specifically, the U.S. Supreme Court commands that "the FAA applies in state as well as federal courts and "withdr[aws] the power of the states to require a judicial forum for the resolution of claims which the contracting parties agreed to resolve by arbitration." Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 684, 116 S. Ct. at 1655 (internal quotations omitted)(citing Southland Corp. v. Keating, 465 U.S. 1, 12, 104 S.Ct. 852, 859 (1984)). Thus, the U.S. Supreme Court further commands that, per the FAA, "Courts may not ... invalidate arbitration agreements under state laws applicable only to arbitration provisions." Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 687, 116 S. Ct. at 1656. And here NRS 597.995 applies only to arbitration provisions and is therefore displaced and preempted by the FAA.

A main problem with NRS 597.995 is that is places arbitration clauses on an unequal footing vis-à-vis other contract provisions and settled contract law, giving arbitration provisions "suspect status." The U.S. Supreme Court reasons:

States may regulate contracts, including arbitration clauses, under

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general contract law principles and they may invalidate an arbitration clause upon such grounds as exist at law or in equity for the revocation of any contract.... What States may not do is decide that a contract is fair enough to enforce all its basic terms (price, service, credit), but not fair enough to enforce its arbitration clause. The Act makes any such state policy unlawful, for that kind of policy would place arbitration clauses on an unequal footing, directly contrary to the Act's language and Congress's intent.

Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 685-86, 116 S. Ct. at 1655 (emphasis added)(quoting Allied-Bruce Terminix Cos. v. Dobson, 513 U.S. 265, 281, 115 S.Ct. 834, 843 (1995)).

Therefore, NRS 597.995 does not preclude the Court from enforcing the parties' jointly negotiated, authorized and drafted Arbitration clause and dismissing Plaintiffs' Complaint in its entirety.

#### In Addition to Being Subject To Arbitration, Plaintiffs' Claims For Unjust III. Enrichment, Alter Ego and RICO Are Insufficient.

Because Plaintiffs claims are subject to Arbitration, respectfully it is the Arbitrator who should determine whether Plaintiffs have sufficiently stated their claims. Notwithstanding, the Plaintiffs' remaining claims for alter ego, RICO and unjust enrichment are (independent of the mandatory Arbitration) insufficiently pled to state a claim or legally barred.

#### Α. The Heightened Standard For A Claim Of Alter Ego Is Consistent With Nevada Law & Plaintiffs Failed To State A Claim Of Alter Ego

Plaintiffs' arguments that alter ego pleading is not subject to particularity and that the federal authorities cited by MMAWC in its motion are somehow contrary to Nevada law are wrong. The Nevada Supreme Court has time and again emphasized that "'[t]he corporate cloak is not lightly thrown aside" and that the alter ego doctrine is an exception to the general rule recognizing corporate independence." LFC Mktg. Grp., Inc. v. Loomis, 116 Nev. 896, 903-04, 8 P.3d 841, 846 (2000)(quoting Baer v. Amos J. Walker, Inc., 85 Nev. 219, 220, 452 P.2d 916, 916 (1969)). To that end, an alter ego exists only "in those limited instances where the particular facts and equities show the existence of an alter ego relationship and require that the corporate

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fiction be ignored so that justice may be promoted." LFC Mktg. Grp., Inc., 116 Nev. at 904, 8 P.3d at 846 (emphasis added). As MMAWC demonstrated in its Motion to Dismiss, Plaintiffs did not plead the "particular facts" showing the existence of an alter ego relationship.

#### B. Plaintiffs' Allegations Do Not Meet Rocker

It is not that Plaintiffs just failed to sufficiently plead the underlying fraud, they also failed to plead the requisite predicate acts and failed to meet Rocker.

As to the underlying purported fraud, Plaintiffs did not meet Rocker safe-harbor provisions. In order to obtain the Rocker relaxed fraud standard and discovery, a plaintiff must" (1) allege sufficient "facts supporting a strong inference of fraud"; (2) must aver that a relaxed fraud standard is appropriate; and (3) "show in his complaint that he cannot plead with more particularity because the required information is in the defendant's possession." Rocker v. KPMG LLP, 122 Nev. 1185, 1195, 148 P.3d 703, 709 (2006)4(abrogated on other grounds by Buzz Stew, LLC v. City of N. Las Vegas, 124 Nev. 224, 181 P.3d 670 (2008))5.

As MMAWC demonstrated in its Motion to Dismiss, Plaintiffs failed to allege the requisite "specific facts giving rise to an inference of fraud." Instead, Plaintiffs' allege a general "fraudulent scheme designed to defraud Plaintiffs of money or property" (see 11/3/17 Complaint at ¶161), which does not meet the first element of Rocker. Plaintiffs also failed to meet the second element of Rocker because they did not aver in their Complaint that a relaxed fraud standard is appropriate. Accordingly, Plaintiffs' claim of a "fraudulent scheme" does not meet the *Rocker* standards and cannot support a claim for RICO.

More importantly, Plaintiffs RICO claim fails because Plaintiffs did not sufficiently

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "In addition to requiring that the plaintiff state facts supporting a strong inference of fraud, we add the additional requirements that the plaintiff must aver that this relaxed standard is appropriate and show in his complaint that he cannot plead with more particularity because the required information is in the defendant's possession." Rocker, 122 Nev. at 1195, 148 P.3d at 709.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Coincidentally, while Plaintiffs cavalierly argued that a heighted pleading is somehow inapplicable to alter ego claims because the cases cited by MMAWC in its motion are based on federal pleading authorities, which Nevada courts purportedly do not follow (See Plts.' Opp'n at p.5), the Rocker pleading standard for fraud which Plaintiffs argue applies was adopted by the Nevada Supreme Court from federal authority. See Rocker, 122 Nev. at 1193 n. 16 (adopting the pleading standard set forth in Neubronner v. Milken, 6 F.3d 666, 672 (9th Cir. 1993)).

10777 West Twain Avenue, Suite 300Las Vegas, Nevada 89135(702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669

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allege, with specificity: (a) "at least two crimes related to racketeering"; (b) "that have the same or similar pattern, intents, results, accomplices, victims or methods of commission; or (c) "are otherwise interrelated by distinguishing characteristics and are not isolated incidents." See NRS 207.390; Hale v. Burkhardt, 104 Nev. 632, 637, 764 P.2d 866 (1988)(RICO claims require specificity).

#### C. Plaintiffs' Tenth Claim for Unjust Enrichment

Plaintiffs argue that their claim for unjust enrichment is an alternative to their contract claims. But that argument is ultimately of no consequence and does not impede dismissal. As an "alternative" to their contact claims, which are subject to arbitration, Plaintiffs' unjust the scope of the Arbitration provision to reach "any other causes of action" related in any way to the Parties' contracts at issue here. See Exhibit 6 at p. 12. 6 Therefore, the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' tenth claim for unjust enrichment along with the Complaint as a whole.

#### III. **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant MMAWC's Motion, dismiss the Complaint and compel Arbitration.

DATED this 15th day of February 2018.

**BLACK & LOBELLO** 

mcouvillier@blacklobello.law

Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC, L.L.C.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Again, the Plaintiffs' agree that the terms of the Licensing Agreement, including Arbitration, were incorporated and integrated into the Settlement Agreement See e.g., 11/3/17 Complaint ¶110 (alleging that the Defendants "breached the Settlement Agreement....by breaching the terms of the Licensing Agreement...").

# BLACK & LOBELLO 10777 West Twain Avenue, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 (702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on <u>February 15, 2018</u>, I electronically filed the foregoing **REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS AND TO COMPEL ARBITRATION** with the Court's electronic filing and service system, which provides electronic service to the following registered users:

Byron Thomas, Esq. (Bar 8906) 3275 S. Jones Blvd., Ste. 104 Las Vegas, NV 89146 Byronthomaslaw@gmail.com

An Employee of Black & LoBello

# **EXHIBIT 5**

#### CW&G

#### Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com>

#### **WSOF License**

Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com>

Tue, Jan 26, 2016 at 11:55 AM

To: Vince Hesser <vincehesser@yahoo.com>, "Antony M. Santos" <tony@amsantoslaw.com>, Byron Thomas <br/> <byronthomaslaw@gmail.com>

Cc: Keith Redmond <keithredmond@mac.com>, Carlos Silva <carlos@wsof.com>, Bruce Deifik <bruce@integprop.com>, Max Couvillier <mcouvillier@blacklobellolaw.com>

#### Gentlemen,

Attached is a redline of the license against the last draft that Byron sent me. Although I have reviewed the document you proposed with Keith Redmond, I have not had the chance to review it in detail with Carlos Silva or Bruce Deifik. Hopefully the attached draft and redline help move along our 1:30 toward a resolution.

Please use the following dial-in information for the call:

Dial in: 760-569-7171 Access Code: 207 555 532

Thank you, Chris

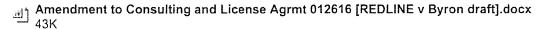
Christopher R, Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E, Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Email: chris@childswatson.com

Office: 702-848-4533 Mobile: 702-606-1034

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#### 2 attachments



Amendment to Consulting and License Agrmt 012616.docx 32K

## AMENDMENT TO CONSULTING AND MASTER LICENSING AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT TO CONSULTING AND MASTER LICENSE AGREEMENT (the "Amendment") is entered into as of January \_\_\_, 2016 ("Effective Date") between MMAWC L.L.C., a Nevada limited liability company ("MMA"), and WSOF GLOBALGlobal Limited, a Hong Kong company ("Consultant") (each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties").

#### Recitals11

WHEREAS, Vincent Hesser and MMA entered into that certain Consulting and Master Licensing Agreement dated October 15, 2012 ("Master License");

WHEREAS, prior to the date hereof, Vincent Hesser assigned all of his rights in and interest to the Master License to Consultant:

WHEREAS, the Master License was additional consideration for the initial member capital investment from Zion Wood OB Wan Trust into MMA;

WHEREAS, the Master License provides that all modifications must be in writing and signed by the parties; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the settlement of certain disputes between MMA and Consultant, MMA and Consultant desire to amend the Master License as set forth in this Amendments.

#### Amendments to the Master License

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which the Parties hereby acknowledge, the Parties agree to modify the Master License as follows:

#### 1. Licensed Rights and Geographical Scope of License.

1.1. MMA confirms that it grants to Consultant the exclusive-right to use the Licensed Marks in conjunction with a Permitted Designation in connection with the Licensed Use during the term set out in the Master License (as amended hereby) in compliance with the terms and conditions set out in the Master License (as amended hereby). MMA reserves all rights not expressly granted in the Master License (as amended hereby). Consultant shall comply with all requirements reasonably established by MMA in connection with use of the

<sup>&#</sup>x27;The recitals and any footnotes contained in this Agreement are an integral part of this Agreement.

Licensed Marks, including, without limitation, use of TM or ®. Consultant acknowledges that MMA is the owner of all right, title and interest in and to the Licensed Marks to the extent that said mark(s) was/were licensed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in the United Statesalone and in connection with any Permitted Designation. Consultant shall not acquire any trademark rights in the United States related to the Licensed Marks. Notwithstanding Consultant shall be afforded the right to use said marks as licensed by the USPTO in any Licensed Marks alone or in connection with any Permitted Designation. Consultant shall not alter, amend, or combine the Licensed Marks with any other mark except any Permitted Consultant shall ensure that it uses the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designation. Designations only in connection with Licensed Use and the Licensed Events and in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of the State of Nevada for MMA fights and standards for product and broadcast established by MMA's Broadcast Partner. Consultant shall be permitted to use the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designations in the manner and as contemplated by the CONSULTING AND MASTER LICENSING AGREEMENT (as amended hereby). Consultant may seek and secure trademark licensing rights for the Permitted Designations in any other jurisdictions or territories located with the permitted geographic territories as specified in Paragraph 1.2, below. Master License (as amended hereby).

1.2. The Parties agree that the geographic area within which Consultant shall be permitted to use the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use pursuant to the terms of the Master License (as amended hereby) shall be any part of the world other than North America (including Canada, the United States and its territories and possessions, including, but not limited to, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. military bases and installations, and ships at sea), the Islands of the Garribean Caribbean Basin, Mexico and the countries that comprise any party of Central America, and South America (the "WSOF Territory"). Consultant shall have no right to license or otherwise promote mixed martial arts under the "World Series of Fighting" brand or any other brand or name within the WSOF Territory-except as contemplated by this Agreement.

1.3 The Parties agree that although Consultant may enter into sublicenses under the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall not be permitted to transfer or assign the Master License (as amended hereby), other than to an Affiliate, without MMA's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Parties agree that it shall not be unreasonable for MMA to withhold its consent to any assignment or transfer of Consultant's interest in the Master License (as amended hereby) to Shawn Lampman, to any competitor of MMA, or to any entity or Person who has been convicted of a felony, or any crime of moral turpitude, or is known to associate with any Person who has been convicted of a felony or any crime of moral turpitude. In the event Consultant desires to assign or transfer its rights under the

Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall give MMA 10 days prior written notice. If MMA fails to respond within such 10 day period, Consultant shall give MMA a second written notice, and if MMA fails to respond within such second 10-day period, MMA shall be deemed to have consented to such assignment or transfer.

#### 2. Compensation.

- 2.1. Under the Master License, every event at which Consultant uses the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use and every sublicense of the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use negotiated by Consultant is required to contain terms that include payment to Consultant—MMA of a minimum license fee of: 1) 10% of Gross Revenue, or 2) 25% of net profits; and or 3) any other reasonably acceptable negotiated business terms (the "Minimum License Fee") Any. All such Gross Revenues and license fees carned by Consultant through sublicenses or other third-party agreements shall be split 20% to Consultant and 80% to MMA.

  Any In addition to the foregoing, Consultant shall pay MMA a license fee of the greater of 1) 10% of Gross Revenue, or 2) 25% of net profits for events which Consultant arranges, produces, or promotes. Any such fees-payable to AIMA, together with a full accounting of the revenue carned and fees paid to Consultant and MMA, shall be paid and proffered to MMA on a quarterly basis to MMA within ten (10) days of the date the revenue or profits are earned by the Consultant or the other counterparty to the agreement.
- 2.2. Consultant may from time to time participate in the funding of events licensed to third-parties under the Master License (as amended hereby). If Consultant elects to so participate in funding any event, then MMA shall likewise have the right to participate such events up to 50% the amount Consultant elects to fund. Consultant shall provide written notice, not less than 10 business days prior to the date of the event, of Consultant-'s intent to participate in funding an event, the amount Consultant intends to fund, the anticipated budget for the event, and the financial terms in which Consultant will share (percentage of revenues and other material financial terms) as a result of providing funding for the event. MMA shall have 10 calendar days from receipt of such written notice from Consultant to notify Consultant whether MMA intends to participate in the funding of the event, the amount MMA intends to fund, and to fund such amount by wiring funds to an account designated by Consultant. Time is of the essence, and in the event MMA fails deposit funds within such 10 calendar day period, MMA shall forfeit its right to participate in such event. Any amounts earned by Consultant or MMA under this Section 2.2 are in addition to, and not in lieu of, the amounts set forth in Section 2.1 above. The amounts set forth in Section 2.1 above are in addition to the amount set forth in this Section 2.2.
- 3. Events. The Consultant and MMA agree that from time to time, (not to exceed threefive (35) events per calendar year). MMA may produce major mixed martial arts events in

the exclusive territory of Consultant (i.e., outside North America, Central America, or South America), upon the following conditions:

- 3.1. MMA must give Consultant at least 90 days- written notice before putting on an event, which notice shall describe the location of the event and the venue for the event.
  - 3.2. MMA shall be solely responsible for funding any such event.
- 3.3. MMA shall not hold an event in the location designated in MMA2s written notice to Consultant if Consultant advises MMA in writing, within 10 calendar days of Consultant2s receipt of MMA2s notice, that Consultant has already entered into a licensesublicense for a territoryan event in the location MMA desires to hold an event or an and such event has been scheduled by the Consultant.
- 3.1. MMA and CONSULTANT further agree that from time to time (not to exceed three (3) events per calendar year) CONSULTANT may produce major mixed martial arts events in the exclusive territory of MMA (i.e., North America, Central America, or South America), upon the following conditions:
- 3.5. CONSULTANT must give MMA at least 90 days' written notice before putting on an event, which notice shall describe the location of the event and the venue for the event.
  - 3.6. CONSULTANT shall be solely responsible for funding any such event.
- 3.7. CONSULTANT shall not hold an event in the location designated in CONSULTANT's written notice to MMA if MMA advises CONSULTANT in writing, within 10 calendar days of MMA's receipt of CONSULTANT's notice, that MMA has already scheduled an event in the location CONSULTANT desires to hold an event and such event has been scheduled by MMA.
- 4. Website and Social Media. Consultant may operate one or more websites intended to promote Consultant's business's events outside the WSOF Territory and clearly labeled as the website for Consultant's activities ("Consultant Website" or "Consultant Websites"). The Consultant Website(s) Websites shall include anya disclaimer reasonably sufficient so as to differentiate the Licensed Events from those offered by MMA. The Consultant Website shall include a prominent Link to the 'wsofge.com' website, and MMA's website shall include a prominent Link to the 'wsofge.com' website. Consultant may register and use during the terms social media user names or handles comprised of the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designations for social media (including, without limitation, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter) to promote Consultant's events and business's events and such promotions shall include a disclaimer sufficient to differentiate the Licensed Events from those offered by MMA. Except with respect to Consultant's events. Consultant shall not market, promote or advertise to consumers within the WSOF Territory. If MMA references Consultant or itsConsultant's

activities: on MMA2s website or social media sites, MMA shall include as part of such references a Link to the <wsofgc.com> website.

- 5. Prohibited Conduct. Consultant (including any sub-licensee or other third party with whom Consultant enters into an agreement under the Master License (as amended hereby)) shall not during term of the Master License (as amended hereby) or thereafter: (a) register any trademark, trade name or fictitious name within the WSOF Territory that incorporates the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) or any marks confusingly similar thereto, or without MMA-1s reasonable approval, register any trademark, trade name or fictitious name that incorporates the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) or any marks confusingly similar thereto within outside of the WSOF Territory; (b) register or use any domain name in any generic Top Level Domain containing the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) or any marks confusingly similar thereto, except domain names approved by MMA; (c) register any user name, handle or social media designation containing the Licensed Marks or any marks confusingly similar thereto with any social media or video sharing website except as provided in Paragraph 4; (d) use the Licensed Marks in any manner that has or may have a negative impact on MMA, MMA's reputation, or the goodwill represented by the Licensed Marks; (e) act as a representative or agent of MMA or engage in any conduct that would imply to any third party that Consultant is an agent or representative of MMA; or (ef) interfere or attempt to interfere with any contract or business relationship between MMA and any third-party; and (d) MMA shall-not interfere orattempt to interfere with any contract or business relationship between ConsultantMMA and any third party. The Parties acknowledge that an application for registration with the US patent and trademark office (the "USPTO") for the trademark "WSOF Global" has been filed by Consultant. Consultant shall abandon Consultant sauch application—. MMA acknowledges that Consultant-s right to use the trademark "WSOF Global" and the other Licensed Marks- outside the WSOF Territory is part of the rights licensed under the Master License (as amended hereby). Furthermore, the Parties acknowledge that any trademarks, tradenames, or fictitious names registered by Consultant (reasonably approved by MMA) outside the WSOF Territory that incorporate the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) are the property of MMA (and all such registrations revert to and shall be assigned to MMA upon termination of the Master License), but are part of the rights licensed under the Master License (as amended hereby). MMA shall not interfere or attempt to interfere with any contract or business relationship between Consultant and any third party.
- 6. **Enforcement of Rights in the Licensed Marks.** Consultant shall not take any action to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks including, but not limited to, initiating opposition and cancellation proceedings and filing civil actions for infringement of rights in the Licensed Marks, unless Consultant obtains the prior written consent of MMA<sub>7</sub>, which shall not be

unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. In the even Consultant desires to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks, Consultant shall give MMA 10 <u>business</u> days<sup>2</sup> prior written notice. If MMA fails to respond within such 10-<u>business</u> day period, MMA shall be deemed to have consented to Consultant enforcing rights in the Licensed Marks in a manner consistent such written notice from Consultant to MMA. If the event that MMA authorizes Consultant to take action to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks, MMA may impose reasonable conditions for doing so, including, but not limited to, requiring Consultant to: (a) take such action in its own name and not in the name of MMA-and-(b): (b) indemnity and hold MMA harmless for any attorneys' fees or costs that MMA incurs in connection with the enforcement action or as the result of any loss of rights in the Licensed Marks; and (c) obtain approval from MMA before entering into any settlement or agreement involving the Licensed Marks, which eannot approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

7. **Breach.** In the event that Consultant materially breaches the Master License (as amended hereby), MMA shall provide Consultant with written notice of the breach. Material breach shall include, but is not limited to: (a) failure to timely pay material amounts any amount due and owing to MMA; or and (b) use of any of the Licensed Marks within the WSOF Territory-except as otherwise provided for by the Consulting and Master Licensing Agreement as amended hereby. Consultant shall have thirty (30) business—days to cure any material breach. If Consultant fails to timely cure the material breach, MMA may terminate this License on written notice to Consultant. This License shall automatically terminate if Consultant files a petition in bankruptey, is adjudicated a bankrupt or files a petition or otherwise seeks relief under or pursuant to any bankruptey, insolvency or reorganization statute or proceeding, or if a petition in bankruptey is filed against it or it becomes insolvent or makes an assignment for the benefit of its creditors or a custodian, receiver, or trustee is appointed for all or a substantial portion of its business or assets.

In the event that MMA materially breaches the Consulting and Master License Agreement (as amended hereby), Consultant shall provide MMA with written notice of the breach. MMA shall have thirty (30) business days to cure any material breach. If MMA fails to timely cure the material breach, Consultant may terminate this License on written notice to MMA.

In the event of a non-cured material breach, or an unresolved dispute, both parties agree to submit to arbitration as follows:

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this contract, including the formation, interpretation, or breach thereof, including whether the claims asserted are subject to arbitration will be referred to and finally determined by arbitration in accordance with the JAMS International Arbitration Rules. The Tribunal will consist of three arbitrators. The place of arbitration will be in the State of Nevada, Clark County. The language to be used in the arbitral

proceedings will be English. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof.

- 8. Term and Effect of Expiration. The term of the Master License shall be ten(10) years from the date this Amendment is executed ("Initial Term"). Consultant shall have the sole right to extend the Initial Term an additional ten (10) years upon written notice to MMAprior to the expiration of the Initial Term. Upon expiration Effect of Termination. Upon expiration or termination of this License, Consultant shall immediately: (a) cease use of the Licensed Marks with or without the Permitted Designation except that the Consultant may phase out existing uses for a period of ninety (90) days and (b) assign all domain names containing the Licensed marks to MMA; (c) assign any social media user names or handles containing the Licensed Marks to MMA; and (d) cease holding Consultant out in any way as a Consultant of MMA or engaging in any conduct that may be reasonably construed as indicating any ongoing relationship with MMA. Consultant-is obligation to pay fees or amounts to MMA shall continue until fully paid by Consultant. In the event any sublicense agreements are continuing in force and effect upon expiration of this Master License. MMA agrees to continue to pay Consultant any fees and remuneration it would have earned under the terms of the Master License until expiration of said sublicenses:
- 9. **Notice of Claim or Suit**. Within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of any threatened or asserted claim, demand, suit, judgment, notice of breach, notice of default, or other adverse action of any kind or nature against MMA or Consultant, the other PartyConsultant. Consultant shall provide MMA with written notice of the foregoing and complete copies of any documents relating thereto. Within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of any threatened or asserted claim, demand, suit, judgment, notice of breach, notice of default, or other adverse action of any kind or nature against MMA related to the Master License (as amended hereby). MMA shall provide Consultant with written notice of the foregoing and complete copies of any documents relating thereto.
- 10. **Indemnification**. Consultant shall indemnify and defend MMA, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related entities from any claim, loss, damage or demand of any kind or nature arising from or relating to: (a) the Consultant-Is use of the Licensed Marks with any Permitted Designation outside the scope of the Licensed Use, within the WSOF Territory, or in violation of the Master License (as amended hereby), and (b) any claim, including, but not limited to, claims for personal injury or property damage, arising out of or relating to the Licensed Use or Licensed Events.

MMA shall indemnify and defend Consultant, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related entities from any claim, loss, damage or demand of any kind or nature arising from or relating to any claim, including, but not limited to, (a) MMA<sup>2</sup> is use of the Licensed Marks within the WSOF Territory,

or in violation of the Master License (as amended hereby), and (b) claims for personal injury or property damage, arising out of or relating to MMA\* sevents within the WSOF Territory.

- 11.— Insurance. Consultant shall secure general liability insurance for any events it holds in an amount sufficient to cover-reasonably anticipated potential losses or claims or tootherwise comply with any laws or regulations as promulgated by the regulatory authorities inthe relevant geographic territories in which said events take place. Insurance. Consultant shall provide MMA with a certificate from its qualified and licensed insurer certifying that Consultant has the following insurance coverage: (i) comprehensive general liability in the minimum amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000 USD) combined single limit that will cover any and all losses to the property of Consultant or its affiliates, property of third parties, or personal injuries caused by the acts or omissions of Consultant, any employee of Consultant or any contractor engaged by Consultant; and (ii) media liability coverage in the minimum amount of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000 USD) combined single limit. The certificate shall also certify that MMA is an additional named insured under the insurance policies, which policies shall include a contractual liability endorsement to cover Consultant's obligations to indemnify MMA hereunder. The certificate shall specifically state that coverage as it pertains to MMA shall be primary regardless of any other coverage which may be available to MMA. Coverage shall be on an occurrence rather than a claims-made basis. The policies shall provide that MMA will be notified of the cancellation or any restrictive amendment of the policies at least fifteen (15) days prior to the effective date of such cancellation or amendment. Consultant shall not violate, or permit to be violated, any conditions of the insurance policies, and Consultant shall at all times satisfy the requirements of the insurance company writing the policies. Consultant shall ensure that all third parties that Consultant contracts with relating to any Licensed Events shall meet the insurance requirements set forth in this paragraph and name MMA as an additional named insured. Consultant shall require each such third party to provide MMA with a certificate of insurance upon MMA's request.
- any ownership in MMA. Consultant, its owners, principals, officers, and directors, will not, directly or indirectly, acquire, maintain any interest in, or otherwise participate in any business engaged in operating or promoting MMA events. The foregoing shall not be construed to prohibit Consultant from acquiring stock in any entity that is publicly traded on a United States stock exchange.
- Choice of Law and Jurisdiction. This License shall be governed by the laws of the State of Nevada without regard to that state—'s conflict of laws analysis, except with respect to trademark issues, which shall be governed by the Lanham Act. Any action brought by any of the parties to enforce the terms of this License or relating to the subject matter of this License shall be brought in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Nevada, or, if the court declines to exercise jurisdiction, in state court in Clark County, Nevada. For the purposes of such an action, the parties to this License consent to personal jurisdiction in all courts in the State of Nevada. Failure of any Party at any time to require strict performance of any provision hereof shall not in any manner affect the right of such Party at a later date to enforce the same.

Parties, this License may be executed in subparts. A signature transmitted by facsimile or other electronic means (such as .pdf documents transmitted by email) shall have the same effect as an original signature.

<u>14.15.</u> **Definitions.** As used in the Master License (as amended hereby), the following terms have the following meanings:

"Affiliate" means a Person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, a specified Person. For the purpose of this definition of Affiliate, the term "control" shall mean the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise.

"Broadcast Partner" means any network or cable television broadcast partner to whom MMA has licensed or granted, or may in the future license or grant, rights to broadcast or disseminate MMA events produced by MMA. As of the Effective Date, MMA-\_s main Broadcast Partner is NBC Sports.

"Gross Revenue" means all revenue generated by Consultant relating in any way to the Licensed Marks, the Licensed Use, or the Licensed Events, including, without limitation, revenue from the sale of tickets, merchandise, concessions, advertising, sponsorships, broadcast rights, payments for sponsorship, payments or subsidies from any governmental authority, and any fees relating to the licensing or transmission of Licensed Events by any type of media whether now known or hereafter created (including, but not limited to television, pay per view, on demand, and streaming), and ancillary and related goods, services and events.

"Licensed Marks" means, without limitation, any and all trademarks, service marks, logos, insignias, designs, and all other commercial symbols which MMA now uses or hereafter adopts to identify the source and origin of its goods and services, including but not limited to, WSOF, World Series of Fighting, and any other marks owned or registered by MMA as of the Effective Date or in the future, in the form and format and with the designs or logos indicated by MMA from time to time.

"Licensed Use" means all of the following uses: (1) the organization, production, and hosting of MMA fights in compliance with Nevada rules and regulations ("Licensed Events"); (2) negotiating and entering into contracts with third parties relating to Licensed Events, including, without limitation, venues, fighters, and sponsors; (3) the advertising, marketing and promotion of Licensed Events; (3) the production and use of a "decagon" cage in connection with Licensed Events; (4) the sale of sponsorships associated with Licensed Events; (5) the production, manufacturing and sale of promotional merchandise and concessions directly relating to Licensed Events; (6) the broadcast, filming and distribution rights associated with Licensed Events subject to standards established by MMA's Broadcast Partner; and (7) any and all other additional goods, services and events offered by Consultant subject to the prior written approval of MMA, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

"Permitted Designation" means one or more terms that Consultant must use in connection with the Licensed Marks to distinguish Consultant from MMA. <u>Any Permitted Designation is subject to MMA's reasonable approval.</u> By way of illustration only, a Permitted Designation might, include "Global" or "Asia," such that the Consultant would use "WSOF Global" or "WSOF Asia" to distinguish itself and the source and origin of its goods and services from MMA, provided that MMA approves such designation in its reasonable discretion.

"Person" means a corporation, joint venture, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, limited liability limited partnership, limited liability company, trust, estate, business trust, association, governmental entity, and any other entity, or a natural person and the heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns of such Person where the context so requires.

- 45.16. No Other Changes to the Master License. Except as set forth in this Amendment, the parties agree that the Master License remains unchanged. There are no other modifications to the Master License other than this Amendment, and all other provisions of the Master License remain in full force and effect except as expressly amended herein.
- 17. Notices. All notices, requests and other communications provided for hereunder shall be in writing (including, unless the context expressly otherwise provides, by facsimile or email transmission, provided that any matter transmitted by facsimile or email shall be following promptly by delivery of a hard copy original thereof) and mailed (by certified mail, return receipt requested), faxed, emailed, or delivered to the following addresses or facsimile numbers:

If to MMA:

MMAWC L.L.C. <u>e/o Chief Executive Officer</u> 901 N. Green Valley Parkway, Suite 150

	Henderson, Nevada 89074 Facsimile: (702) 990-9837
	<u>Email:</u>
	With a copy to:
	Attention:
	Facsimile:
***************************************	Email:
	And to:
	Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC. 770 E. Warm Spring Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Attention: Christopher R. Childs Facsimile: (702) 848-4533 Email: chris(a;childswatson.com
<u>If te</u>	Consultant:
7 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	WSOF Global Limited
	Attention:
	Facsimile:
	Email:
	With a copy to:
	Attention:
	Faesimile:

or to such other address or number as shall be designated by such person in a written notice to the other party given in the manner required hereunder. All such notices, requests and communications shall, if transmitted by overnight delivery, be effective when delivered for overnight (next day) delivery on the next business day; or, if transmitted in legible form by email or facsimile machine on or before 5:00 p.m. on a business day, on such day, otherwise the next business day; or if mailed, upon receipt or the first refusal to accept such notice, request or other communication; or if delivered, upon delivery.

Email:

18. Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim or causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby), which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award, or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section, then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

[signature page follows]

MMA:	CONSULTANT:
MMAWC L.L.C., a Nevada limited liability company	WSOF GLOBAL LIMITED
Signature	Signature
Printed Name	Printed Name
Title.	Title
Date	Date

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: the parties hereto-have duly executed this Agreement as of the date first-set-forth above, to be effective as of said-date.

MMA	Date:
MMAWC L.L.C., a Nevada limited liability company	<del>Per:</del>
	Name:
	Per:
	Name:  Title:
CONSULTANT WSOF-GLOBAL	Dute:
	Per:
	Name:
	Title:
	Per: Name:
	Title:



Document comparison by Workshare Professional on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 11:52:15 AM

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Description	Amendement to License
Document 2 ID	C:\Users\Christopher\Google Drive\Clio\MMAWC, L.L.C. (World Series of Fighting - WSOF)\Vince Hesser\Amendment to Consulting and License Agrmt 012616.docx
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Format changed	0
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# **EXHIBIT 6**

#### CW&G

#### Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com>

#### Fwd:

Chris it has taken longer to get this done than I thought. My clients are giving it one more look over, but I want to get something to you today.

#### 3 attachments

- 2Operating Agreement of MMAWC (4th AR) 012716a.docx
- 2Amendment to Consulting and License Agrmt 012816redline.docx 34K
- 2Settlement Agreement 012816red.docx

## AMENDMENT TO CONSULTING AND MASTER LICENSING AGREEMENT

This AMENDMENT TO CONSULTING AND MASTER LICENSE AGREEMENT (the "Amendment") is entered into as of January \_\_\_, 2016 ("Effective Date") between MMAWC L.L.C., a Nevada limited liability company ("MMA"), and WSOF Global Limited, a Hong Kong company ("Consultant") (each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties").

#### Recitals1

WHEREAS, Vincent Hesser and MMA entered into that certain Consulting and Master Licensing Agreement dated October 15, 2012 ("Master License");

WHEREAS, prior to the date hereof, Vincent Hesser assigned all of his rights in and interest to the Master License to Consultant;

WHEREAS, the Master License was additional consideration for the initial member capital investment from Zion Wood OB Wan Trust into MMA;

WHEREAS, the Master License provides that all modifications must be in writing and signed by the parties; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the settlement of certain disputes between MMA and Consultant, MMA and Consultant desire to amend the Master License as set forth in this Amendment.

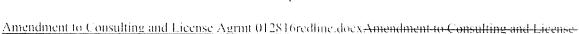
#### Amendments to the Master License

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which the Parties hereby acknowledge, the Parties agree to modify the Master License as follows:

#### 1. Licensed Rights and Geographical Scope of License.

1.1. MMA confirms that it grants to Consultant the exclusive right to use the Licensed Marks in conjunction with a Permitted Designation in connection with the Licensed Use during the term set out in the Master License (as amended hereby) in compliance with the terms and conditions set out in the Master License (as amended hereby), in those portions of the world that are not part of the WSOF Territory (as defined below). MMA reserves all rights with respect to the Licensed Marks not expressly granted in the Master License (as amended hereby).

Agran 012716



The recitals and any footnotes contained in this Agreement are an integral part of this Agreement.

Consultant shall comply with all-the requirements reasonably established by MMA in connection with use of the Licensed Marks, including, without limitation, by usinge of TM or ® with the Licensed Marks. Consultant acknowledges that MMA is the owner of all right, title and interest in and to the Licensed Marks alone and in connection with any Permitted Designation. Consultant shall not acquire any trademark rights in the Licensed Marks alone or in connection with any Permitted Designation, except within Consultant's exclusive territory. Consultant shall not alter, amend, or combine the Licensed Marks with any other mark except any Permitted Designation. Consultant shall ensure that it uses the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designations only in connection with Licensed Use and the Licensed Events and in compliance with the Unified Mixed Martial Arts rules and regulations and the standards for product and broadcast established by the party who is broadcasting the Licensed Event (if any). Consultant shall be permitted to use the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designations in the manner and as contemplated by the Master License (as amended hereby).

- 1.2. The Parties agree that the geographic area within which Consultant shall be permitted to use the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use pursuant to the terms of the Master License (as amended hereby) shall be any part of the world other than North America (including Canada, the United States and its territories and possessions, including, but not limited to. Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. ships at sea), the Islands of the Caribbean Basin, Mexico and the countries that comprise any party of Central America, and South America (the "WSOF Territory"). Consultant shall have no right to license or otherwise-promote mixed martial arts under the "World Series of Fighting" brand or any other brand or name—within the WSOF Territory, except as may be contemplated by this Agreement. The Parties agree that the Parties shall co-promote MMA events, on terms acceptable to both Parties in their reasonable discretion, on U.S. military bases and installations located outside of the WSOF Territory, and in connection with such events Consultant may use the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use.
- 1.3 The Parties agree that although Consultant may enter into sublicenses under the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall not be permitted to transfer or assign the Master License (as amended hereby), other than to an Affiliate, without MMA's prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Parties agree that it shall not be unreasonable for MMA to withhold its consent to any assignment or transfer of Consultant's interest in the Master License (as amended hereby) to Shawn Lampman (or any Affiliate or family member of Shawn Lampman) or to any competitor of MMA. In the event Consultant desires to assign or transfer its rights under the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall give MMA two (2) business days prior written notice. If MMA fails to respond within such

two (2) business day period, MMA shall be deemed to have consented to such assignment or transfer.

### 2. Compensation.

- 2.1. Under the Master License, every event at which Consultant uses the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use and every sublicense of the Licensed Marks for the Licensed Use negotiated by Consultant is required to contain terms that include payment to MMA of a minimum license fee of: 1) 10% of Gross Revenue, or 2) 25% of net profits. All Gross Revenues and The license fees earned by Consultant shall be split 20% to Consultant and 80% to MMA. Any such license fees, together with a full accounting of the revenue earned and fees paid to Consultant and MMA, shall be paid to MMA on a quarterly basis.
- 2.2. Consultant may from time to time participate in the funding of events licensed to third-parties under the Master License (as amended hereby). If Consultant elects to so participate in funding any event, then MMA shall likewise have the right to participate such events up to 50% the amount Consultant elects to fund. Consultant shall provide written notice, not less than 10 business days prior to the date of the event, of Consultant's intent to participate in funding an event, the amount Consultant intends to fund, the anticipated budget for the event, and the financial terms in which Consultant will share (percentage of revenues and other material financial terms) as a result of providing funding for the event. MMA shall have 10 calendar days from receipt of such written notice from Consultant to notify Consultant whether MMA intends to participate in the funding of the event, the amount MMA intends to fund, and to fund such amount by wiring funds to an account designated by Consultant. Time is of the essence, and in the event MMA fails deposit funds within such 10 calendar day period, MMA shall forfeit its right to participate in such event. Any amounts earned by Consultant or MMA under this Section 2.2 are in addition to, and not in lieu of, the amount set forth in Section 2.1 above. The amounts set forth in Section 2.1 above are in addition to the amount set forth in this Section 2.2.
- 3. **Events.** The Consultant and MMA agree that from time to time, not to exceed three (3) events per calendar year, MMA may produce major mixed martial arts events in the exclusive territory of Consultant (i.e., outside North America, Central America, or South America), upon the following conditions:
- 3.1. MMA must give Consultant at least 90 days written notice before putting on an event, which notice shall describe the location of the event and the venue for the event.
  - 3.2. MMA shall be solely responsible for funding any such event.

- 3.3. MMA shall not hold an event in the location designated in MMA's written notice to Consultant if Consultant advises MMA in writing, within 10 calendar days of Consultant's receipt of MMA's notice, that Consultant has already entered into a sublicense for the territory in the location MMA desires to hold an event or an event has been scheduled by the Consultant.
- 3.4. MMA and Consultant further agree that from time to time (not to exceed three (3) events per calendar year), Consultant and MMA may co-produce major mixed martial arts events in the WSOF Territory (other than the United States) on such terms and conditions as are mutually agreed upon by the Parties in their reasonable discretion. In the event MMA chooses not to co-produce an event, Consultant may proceed to produce the event at its sole expense.
- 4. Website and Social Media. Consultant may operate one or more websites intended to promote Consultant's business and clearly labeled as the website for Consultant's activities ("Consultant Website" or "Consultant Websites"). The Consultant Websites shall include a disclaimer reasonably sufficient to differentiate the Licensed Events from those offered by MMA. The Consultant Website shall include a prominent Link to the <wsof.com> website, and MMA's website shall include a prominent Link to the <wsofgc.com> website. Consultant may register and use during the term social media user names or handles comprised of the Licensed Marks with Permitted Designations for social media (including, without limitation, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter) to promote Consultant's events and business and such promotions shall include a disclaimer reasonably sufficient to differentiate the Licensed Events from those offered by MMA. If MMA references Consultant or Consultant's activities on MMA's website or social media sites, MMA shall include as part of such references a Link to the <wsofgc.com> website.
- 5. Prohibited Conduct. Consultant (including any sub-licensee or other third party with whom Consultant enters into an agreement under the Master License (as amended hereby)) shall not during term of the Master License (as amended hereby) or thereafter: (a) register any trademark, trade name or fictitious name within the WSOF Territory that incorporates the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) or any marks confusingly similar thereto, or without MMA's reasonable approval (which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed), register any trademark, trade name or fictitious name that incorporates the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) or any marks confusingly similar thereto outside withined the WSOF Territory; (b) except with respect to any trademark registrations that MMA consents to Consultant completing as set out herein, act as a representative or agent of MMA or engage in any conduct that would imply to any third party that Consultant is an agent or representative of MMA; or (c) interfere or attempt to

interfere with any contract or business relationship between MMA and any third party. The Parties acknowledge that an application for registration with the US patent and trademark office (the "USPTO") for the trademark "WSOF Global" has been filed by Consultant. Consultant shall abandon such application. MMA acknowledges that Consultant's right to use the trademark "WSOF Global" and the other Licensed Marks outside the WSOF Territory is part of the rights licensed under the Master License (as amended hereby). Furthermore, the Parties acknowledge that any trademarks, tradenames, or fictitious names registered by Consultant (reasonably approved by MMA) outside—within the WSOF Territory that incorporate the Licensed Marks (with or without any Permitted Designation) are the property of MMA (and all such registrations revert to and shall be assigned to MMA upon termination of the Master License), but are part of the rights licensed under the Master License (as amended hereby). All registrations MMA consents to Consultant making under this Section 5 shall be completed by Consultant in the name of MMA as agent for MMA, but may be used by Consultant under the terms of the Master License (as amended hereby). MMA shall not interfere or attempt to interfere with any contract or business relationship between Consultant and any third party.

- Enforcement of Rights in the Licensed Marks. Consultant shall not take any 6. action to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks including, but not limited to, initiating opposition and cancellation proceedings and filing civil actions for infringement of rights in the Licensed Marks, unless Consultant obtains the prior written consent of MMA, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned, or delayed. In the even Consultant desires to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks, Consultant shall give MMA ten (10) business days prior written notice. If MMA fails to respond within such 10 business day period, MMA shall be deemed to have consented to Consultant enforcing rights in the Licensed Marks in a manner consistent such written notice from Consultant to MMA. If the event that MMA authorizes Consultant to take action to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks, MMA may impose reasonable conditions for doing so, including, but not limited to, requiring Consultant to: (a) take such action in its own name and not in the name of MMA; (b) obtain approval from MMA before entering into any settlement or agreement involving the Licensed Marks, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. If the event that MMA authorizes Consultant to take action to enforce rights in the Licensed Marks, the approved costs and expenses of enforcing the Licensed Marks shall be shared equally by MMA and Consultant.
- 7. **Breach.** In the event that Consultant materially breaches the Master License (as amended hereby), MMA shall provide Consultant with written notice of the breach. Material breach shall include, but is not limited to: (a) failure to timely pay any a material amount due and owing to MMA; and (b) unauthorized use of any of the Licensed Marks within the WSOF Territory. Consultant shall have thirty (30) days to cure any material breach; provided, however, that in the event any material breach cannot be cured within such thirty (30) day period.

Consultant shall have such reasonable period of time as is necessary to cure the material breach so long as Consultant commences to cure such material breach within such thirty (30) day period and diligently pursues such cure to completion. Hi Consultant fails to timely cure the material breach. MMA shall be entitled to all remedies available to it at law or in equity:

In the event that MMA materially breaches the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall provide MMA with written notice of the breach. MMA shall have thirty (30) days to cure any material breach; provided, however, that in the event any material breach cannot be cured within such thirty (30) day period, MMA shall have such reasonable period of time as is necessary to cure the material breach so long as MMA commences to cure such material breach within such thirty (30) day period and diligently pursues such cure to completion. If MMA fails to timely cure the material breach. Consultant shall be entitled to all remedies available to it at law or in equity.

- 8. Effect of Termination. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Master License, the term of the Master License shall continue until the date that is ten (10) years from Upon expiration or termination of this License, Consultant shall the Effective Date. immediately: (a) cease use of the Licensed Marks with or without the Permitted Designation except that the Consultant may phase out existing uses for a period of ninety (90) days; (b) assign or cease use of all domain names containing the Licensed marks to MMA; (c) assign or cease use of any social media user names or handles containing the Licensed Marks to MMA: and (d) cease holding Consultant out in any way as a Consultant of MMA or engaging in any conduct that may be reasonably construed as indicating any ongoing relationship with MMA. Consultant's obligation to pay fees or amounts to MMA shall continue until fully paid by Consultant. In the event Consultant desires to enter into any sublicense that extends beyond the term of the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall present such sublicense to MMA for approval and written consent, which approval and consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. Consultant shall give MMA two (2) business days' prior written notice. If MMA fails to respond within such two (2) business day period. MMA shall be deemed to have consented to such sublicense term, MMA agrees to continue to pay Consultant any fees and remuneration it would have earned under the terms of the Master License until expiration of all sublicenses.
- 9. Notice of Claim or Suit. Within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of any threatened or asserted claim, demand, suit, judgment, notice of breach, notice of default, or other adverse action of any kind or nature against Consultant related to the Master License (as amended hereby), Consultant shall provide MMA with written notice of the foregoing and complete copies of any documents relating thereto. Within ten (10) days after receipt of notice of any threatened or asserted claim, demand, suit, judgment, notice of breach, notice of default, or other adverse action of any kind or nature against MMA related to the Master License (as

amended hereby), MMA shall provide Consultant with written notice of the foregoing and complete copies of any documents relating thereto.

10. **Indemnification**. Consultant shall indemnify and defend MMA, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related entities from any claim, loss, damage or demand of any kind or nature arising from or relating to: (a) the Consultant's use of the Licensed Marks with any Permitted Designation outside the scope of the Licensed Use or outside the WSOF Territory, and (b) any claim, including, but not limited to, claims for personal injury or property damage, arising out of or relating to the Licensed Use or Licensed Events.

MMA shall indemnify and defend Consultant, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related entities from any claim, loss, damage or demand of any kind or nature arising from or relating to any claim, including, but not limited to, (a) MMA's use of the Licensed Marks within the WSOF Territory, and (b) claims for personal injury or property damage, arising out of or relating to MMA's events within the WSOF Territory.

- Insurance. Consultant shall secure general liability insurance and media liability 11. coverage for its business and for any Licensed Events in an amount sufficient to cover reasonably anticipated potential losses or claims or to otherwise comply with any laws or regulations as promulgated by the regulatory authorities in the relevant geographic territories in which said events take place. Consultant shall provide MMA with a certificate from its qualified and licensed insurer certifying that Consultant has such coverage, which certificate shall certify that MMA is an additional named insured under the insurance policies, and which policies shall include a contractual liability endorsement to cover Consultant's obligations to indemnify MMA hereunder. The certificate shall specifically state that coverage as it pertains to MMA shall be primary regardless of any other coverage which may be available to MMA. Coverage shall beon an occurrence rather than a claims made basis. Consultant shall ensure that all third parties that Consultant contracts with relating to any Licensed Events shall meet the insurance requirements set forth in this paragraph and name MMA as an additional named insured. Consultant shall require each such third party to provide MMA with a certificate of insurance upon MMA's request.
- 12. Competing Business. Other than the business contemplated by this License and any ownership in MMA. Consultant, its owners, principals, officers, and directors, will not, directly or indirectly, acquire, or maintain any interest in, or otherwise participate in any business engaged in operating or promoting MMA events Bellator or UFC. The foregoing shall not be construed to prohibit Consultant from acquiring stock in any entity that is publicly traded on a United States stock exchange, nor shall it be construed to prohibit Consultant from participating with or acquiring other mixed martial arts leagues or promotions—that operate outside of the

WSOF Territory as long as such acquisitions are 100% owned by Consultant (either as acquired assets of Consultant or as a subsidiary of Consultant) and revenue from such acquisitions rolls up into and becomes a part of the calculation of Gross Revenue and fees as provided for herein.

- 13. Choice of Law and Jurisdiction. This License shall be governed by the laws of the State of Nevada without regard to that state's conflict of laws analysis, except with respect to trademark issues, which shall be governed by the Lanham Act. Any action brought by any of the parties to enforce the terms of this License or relating to the subject matter of this License shall be brought in the United States District Court for the District of Nevada in Las Vegas, Nevada, or, if the court declines to exercise jurisdiction, in state court in Clark County, Nevada. For the purposes of such an action, the parties to this License consent to personal jurisdiction in all courts in the State of Nevada. Failure of any Party at any time to require strict performance of any provision hereof shall not in any manner affect the right of such Party at a later date to enforce the same.
- 14. **Counterpart Execution.** To facilitate the execution of this License by the Parties, this License may be executed in subparts. A signature transmitted by facsimile or other electronic means (such as .pdf documents transmitted by email) shall have the same effect as an original signature.
- 15. **Definitions**. As used in the Master License (as amended hereby), the following terms have the following meanings:

"Affiliate" means a Person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, a specified Person. For the purpose of this definition of Affiliate, the term "control" shall mean the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise.

"Broadcast Partner" means any network or cable television broadcast partner to whom MMA has licensed or granted, or may in the future license or grant, rights to broadcast or disseminate MMA events produced by MMA. As of the Effective Date, MMA's main Broadcast Partner is NBC Sports.

"Gross Revenue" means all revenue generated by Consultant relating in any way to the Licensed Marks, the Licensed Use, or the Licensed Events, including, without limitation, revenue from the sale of tickets, merchandise, concessions, advertising, sponsorships, broadcast rights, payments for sponsorship, payments or subsidies from any governmental authority, and any fees relating to the licensing or transmission of Licensed Events by any type of media

whether now known or hereafter created (including, but not limited to television, pay per view, on demand, and streaming), and ancillary and related goods, services and events.

"Licensed Marks" means, without limitation, any and all trademarks, service marks, logos, insignias, designs, and all other commercial symbols which MMA now uses or hereafter adopts to identify the source and origin of its goods and services, including but not limited to, WSOF. World Series of Fighting, and any other marks owned or registered by MMA as of the Effective Date or in the future, in the form and format and with the designs or logos indicated by MMA from time to time.

"Licensed Use" means all of the following uses: (1) the organization, production, and hosting of MMA fights in compliance with the Unified Mixed Martial Arts rules and regulations ("Licensed Events"); (2) negotiating and entering into contracts with third parties relating to Licensed Events, including, without limitation, venues, fighters, and sponsors; (3) the advertising, marketing and promotion of Licensed Events; (3) the production and use of a "decagon" cage in connection with Licensed Events; (4) the sale of sponsorships associated with Licensed Events; (5) the production, manufacturing and sale of promotional merchandise and concessions; (6) the broadcast, filming and distribution rights associated with Licensed Events subject to standards established by the party broadcasting the Licensed Event; and (7) any and all other goods, services and events offered by Consultant subject to the prior written approval of MMA, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

"Permitted Designation" means one or more terms that Consultant must use in connection with the Licensed Marks to distinguish Consultant from MMA. Any Permitted Designation is subject to MMA's reasonable approval. By way of illustration only, a Permitted Designation might, include "Global" or "Asia," such that the Consultant would use "WSOF Global" or "WSOF Asia" to distinguish itself and the source and origin of its goods and services from MMA, provided that MMA approves such designation-in-its reasonable discretion.

"Person" means a corporation, joint venture, partnership, limited liability partnership, limited partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, trust, estate, business trust, association, governmental entity, and any other entity, or a natural person and the heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns of such Person where the context so requires.

16. No Other Changes to the Master License. Except as set forth in this Amendment, the parties agree that the Master License remains unchanged. There are no other modifications to the Master License other than this Amendment, and all other provisions of the Master License remain in full force and effect except as expressly amended herein.

17. **Notices.** All notices, requests and other communications provided for hereunder shall be in writing (including, unless the context expressly otherwise provides, by facsimile or email transmission, provided that any matter transmitted by facsimile or email shall be following promptly by delivery of a hard copy original thereof) and mailed (by certified mail, return receipt requested), faxed, emailed, or delivered to the following addresses or facsimile numbers:

If to MMA:

	MMAWC L.L.C.
	c/o Chief Executive Officer
	Henderson, Nevada
	Facsimile: ()
	Email:
	With a copy to:
	Attention:
	Facsimile:
	Email:
	And to:
	Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC. 770 E. Warm Spring Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Attention: Christopher R. Childs
	Facsimile: (702) 848-4533
	Email: <u>christa childswatson.com</u>
If to Co	onsultant:
	WSOF Global Limited
	Attention:
	Facsimile:
	Email:
	With a copy to:



Attention:	
Facsimile:	
Email:	

or to such other address or number as shall be designated by such person in a written notice to the other party given in the manner required hereunder. All such notices, requests and communications shall, if transmitted by overnight delivery, be effective when delivered for overnight (next day) delivery on the next business day; or, if transmitted in legible form by email or facsimile machine on or before 5:00 p.m. on a business day, on such day, otherwise the next business day; or if mailed, upon receipt or the first refusal to accept such notice, request or other communication; or if delivered, upon delivery.

18. Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim, uncured breach or any other causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby), which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award, or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section. then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

[signature page follows]



MMA:	CONSULTANT: WSOF GLOBAL LIMITED	
MMAWC L.L.C., a Nevada limited liability company		
Signature	Signature	
Printed Name	Printed Name	
Title	Title	
Date	Date	

# EXHIBIT 7

From:

Christopher Childs

To:

Byron Thomas; Max Couvillier; Keith Redmond

Subject:

Re: Revised documents

Date:

Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:06:56 AM

#### Byron,

I will circulate execution versions of the documents for signature, but Max will be getting in touch with you about getting another extension done in case getting signatures extends beyond tomorrow.

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Email: chris@childswatson.com

Office: 702-848-4533 Mobile: 702-606-1034

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On Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 10:36 AM, Byron Thomas < byronthomaslaw@gmail.com > wrote: Hello, Chris. If this is not going to get done by Friday we need to execute another extension.

On Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 1:13 PM, Christopher Childs < chris@childswatson.com > wrote: Hello Byron,

Bruce Deifik has signed off on the last set of changes. I am waiting for final confirmation from Haskel Iny and Bruce Bendell. I will let you know when I have heard from them.

Thank you, Chris

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Email: chris@childswatson.com

Office: <u>702-848-4533</u> Mobile: <u>702-606-1034</u>

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On Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 12:09 PM, Byron Thomas < byronthomaslaw@gmail.com > wrote:

Hello Chris. Have you guys had a chance to look at the documents? I know there was a delay on our part in getting them back to you, but we pretty much accepted all of Chris's changes from his last version, so I thought we would get this done in a day or so. If that is not going to happen please let me know. Deadlines in the litigation were pushed out until this Friday and I need to know if we are back in litgation mode. Thanks.

On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 5:21 PM, Christopher Childs < chris@childswatson.com > wrote: That's probably a better question for Vince than me. As I understand it, the issues are:

- (1) To what extent can Hesser/Wright compete with WSOF. I thought it was understood that they cannot compete with us within our territory, but they took out the language that would prevent that.
- (2) Is anybody giving indemnities in the settlement agreement? Apparently Hesser/Wright want them removed if it means they have to give any type of personal indemnity.
- (3) Which provisions (if any) to the operating agreement are we prohibited from amending without Zion's consent. I thought Zion was going to identify those sections they don't want amended, but they haven't done that. Apparently they don't want us to be able to amend anything that affects their rights as a member (which is basically everything in the agreement). That won't work if you expect to try to bring in new capital, and that's also not in the current operating agreement. We already agreed not to change the provisions that make Zion non-dilutable without their consent.

If there is anything else, I'm not sure what it is because nobody has told me what the issues are since I sent the agreements back today. I thought Byron and I had basically resolved everything else yesterday, and I sent Byron the revised agreements according to our conversation. Believe me, I want this to be over as much as (and maybe more than) anyone else, but I guess I am not really surprised that I would be made into the scapegoat.

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Email: chris@childswatson.com

Office: <u>702-848-4533</u> Mobile: <u>702-606-1034</u>

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On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 4:52 PM, Bruce Deifik < bruce@integprop.com > wrote: What's up here Chris and what is it we can't get agreed to??!

Bruce W Deifik President-CEO



Integrated Properties, Inc

On Feb 2, 2016, at 4:39 PM, Vince Hesser < vincehesser@yahoo.com > wrote:

Bruce,

I believe we are at an impasse with the language here. Let's take this back up again when I'm back from Asia. Thanks for trying.

You and I came up with an acceptable agreement on New Years, which was agreed only to be minor changes to the agreement. We went well beyond that, and now it seems we are stuck going back and forth with terms that should never have been included in the first place. It appears there is a disconnect between you and Childs/Redmond as to what was agreed, and who is in charge to fix this. We have given up many additional rights under these docs, and there are no other terms that are necessary. This is simply over-lawyering to the point of standing in the way of the deal, and possibly mutual destruction of our investments.

At this juncture we should just revive the Bhavin's deal structure and let him discuss with Childs and Redmond.

Best, Vince

**From:** Christopher Childs <<u>chris@childswatson.com</u>> **To:** Byron Thomas <<u>byronthomaslaw@gmail.com</u>>; Vince

Hesser < vincehesser@yahoo.com >

Cc: Bruce Deifik < bruce@integprop.com >; Keith Redmond

< keithredmond@mac.com>

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2016 3:51 PM

Subject: Revised documents

Byron,

Per our conversation, attached are the revised documents that have been redlined against the last versions that you saw. I highlighted the two or three issues where I know you still needed to talk with Vince. After you have had a chance to review these, let's figure out a time for all of us to talk.

Thanks,

#### Chris

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

Email: chris@childswatson.com

Office: 702-848-4533 Mobile: 702-606-1034

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# **EXHIBIT 8**

### DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPHER R. CHILDS, ESQ.

Pursuant to NRS 53.045, Christopher R. Childs declares as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney and represent MMAWC L.L.C. ("MMAWC") in various transactional matters. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated here.
- 2. I make this Declaration in support of MMAWC's Reply in support of Motion to Dismiss, in the Eighth Judicial District Court Matter captioned *Zion Wood Obi Want Trust et al v. MMAWC, LLC et al,* Case No. A-17-764118-C ("Matter").
- 3. Attached to the Reply as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct email from me to Byron Thomas, Esq. dated January 26, 2016 regarding my edits to Mr. Byron's draft of the *Amendment to Consulting and Master Licensing Agreement* ("Licensing Agreement"), which is at issue in MMAWC's Motion to Dismiss filed in the Action on January 8, 2018. Among various parties, Mr. Thomas represented WSOF Global Limited ("Global"), Vince Hesser ("Hesser"), Shawn Wright ("Wright"), Zion Wood Obi Want Trust ("Zion") in connection with the negotiation and drafting of the various settlement agreements attached as Exhibits 1 through 4 to MMAWC's Motion to Dismiss.
- 4. Attached to the Reply as Exhibit 6 is a true and correct email that I received from Mr. Thomas dated January 29, 2016.
- 5. Attached to the Reply as Exhibit 7 are true and correct mails exchanged between Mr. Thomas, myself and others between February 2 and February 11, 2016, regarding the settlement agreements referenced above, including the Licensing Agreement.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on February 15, 2018.

CHRISTOPHER R. CHILDS

Derin R. Olika

Electronically Filed 6/11/2018 8:57 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

# **RTRAN** 1 2 3 4 DISTRICT COURT 5 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 6 7 8 ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST. CASE#: A-17-764118-C 9 Plaintiff, DEPT. XXVII 10 VS. 11 MMAWC, LLC, 12 Defendant. 13 BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY L. ALLF, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 14 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018 15 RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT AND TO COMPEL ARBITRATION 16 APPEARANCES: 17 18 For the Plaintiff: BYRON E. THOMAS, ESQ. 19 20 21 For the Defendant: MAXIMILIANO D. COUVILLIER III, ESQ. 22 23 24

RECORDED BY: BRYNN GRIFFITHS, COURT RECORDER

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1	Las Vegas, Nevada, Wednesday, February 21, 2018
2	
3	[Case called at 10:28 a.m.]
4	THE COURT: Calling the case of on page 11, Zi Zion
5	Wood Obi Wan Trust versus MWAWC, LLC. Appearances, please.
6	MR. THOMAS: Byron Thomas for Plaintiffs.
7	THE COURT: Thank you.
8	MR. COUVILLIER: Good morning, Your Honor. Max
9	Couvillier on behalf of Defendant, MMAWC, LLC.
10	THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Couvillier, this is your
11	motion to dismiss.
12	MR. COUVILLIER: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.
13	Your Honor, I think I think we've covered the grounds for
14	dismissal in our motion. Suffice it to say that the arbitration clause,
15	on the one hand was negotiated, jointly drafted and specifically
16	authorized by all the parties and on that basis alone, the Court
17	should grant the motion to dismiss and compel arbitration.
18	On the other hand, the grounds for striking the arbitration
19	clause based upon NRS. Your Honor, we submit again as the
20	Nevada Supreme Court suggested that that the arbitration
21	provision at NRS 597 violates the Federal arbitration act.
22	So other than what we've stated, Your Honor, and I trust
23	that the Court has reviewed. If the Court has any questions, I'd be
24	happy to address those.

THE COURT: I don't.

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AA199 Page 2

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MR. COUVILLIER: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

And the opposition, please.

MR. THOMAS: First, Your Honor. If they are -- in their reply they submitted affiday -- or, information outside the record, if the Court considers that, then this should be a 56 -- rule 56 motion summary judgment. And I make a motion pursuant to rule 56(f) to contain to allow for additional discovery. This is very early -- very early in the case, nobody's even filed an answer, Your Honor. I think it's, as a matter of course, in Nevada that these cases at this stage are granted motions for additional discovery are -- are granted. So therefore, if you consider the additional information -- the e-mails, and all that that went outside the pleading, I submit the 56(f) would apply.

Also, Your Honor, as it goes to the actual merits of the motion, when you look at the documents, the licensing agreement, the operating agreement and the settlement agreement. The licensing agreement is made part of the settlement agreement; the settlement agreement is not part of the licensing agreement, Your Honor. I would be shocked if the other parties to the actual operating agreement and the actual settlement agreement realized that they had given away the arbitration rights as a part of -- in one provision of a license agreement that they probably didn't even read because it didn't pertain to them, Your Honor.

So on -- on that issue alone, I think the --the argument that

AA200 Page 3

somehow whole complaint should be dismissed is without merit. Zion Obi Wan didn't even sign the licensing agreement, and therefore shouldn't even be binding upon them. So I don't know how we all of a sudden jumped to Zion Obi Wan being bound and everybody who wasn't even a party to the licensing agreement, being sup tic from arbitration clause. As a matter of fact, if anything, the arbitration clause was made a part of the settlement agreement, so this court would have authority over all of that, Your Honor.

So at a minimum the Court should allow my clients to amend their complaint to clearly delineate which one -- which claims are part of the settlement agreement, and which claims are part of the licensing agreement, if the Court is so inclined.

Furthermore, I actually do not think that this -- the statute runs afoul of the FAA. This statute, it's simply in for -- or makes clear what is already required in state law and that is that all arbitration clause not be unconscionable. By allowing the -- or making the signature be put on that particular revision, they make it clear that it's not unconscionable. All the parties have agreed to it. There's not unequal bargaining power. That's simply -- it's not an attempt to, to interfere with their federal arbitration act.

If you have any questions, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I don't. Thank you.

And the reply, please.

MR. COUVILLIER: Your Honor, as we stated in our reply at

Page 4 AA201

footnote 3 on page 3, this is not a motion for summary judgment nor is the Court required to convert this on a motion for summary judgment. This issue of arbitration is a jurisdictional issue, Your Honor. And as we quote on there from the *Sudano versus Federal Airport* case, which is at 699 F. Supp. 860 -- 824. In a motion to dismiss based primarily on lack of subject matter jurisdiction, the Court may receive among other forms of competent evidence affidavits reserved to resolve any factual dispute, the consideration of such evidence is not convert a motion to dismiss and to want for summary judgment.

Your Honor, as far as the incorporation of the documents, Your Honor. That was made clearly by the way that they plead their complaint. In terms of one claim includes the other and for example, they -- they alleged that -- that, you know, the agreement, settlement agreement was fully incorporated into the licensing agreement into the settlement agreement, the settlement agreement specifically makes references to those fully incorporates those documents as a fully set forth there, including all the provisions. There is no mistake about that, Your Honor. You can see that the way that they plead their complaint, everything is interrelated. And at this moment they can't, you know, now walk backwards and say, whoops we walked into a line mine that we created; let's try to parcel things out. Everything is clearly subject to the arbitration provision. And we ask the Court to enforce that.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Page 5 AA202

This is the Defendant's motion to dismiss the complaint and compel arbitration. Motion will be denied for the following reasons. There's just no reference to arbitration in the licensing agreement, and so I find that the arbitration provision is void, under NRS 597.995. With regard to the foreign entity agreement, that was remedied by the Plaintiff. With regard to the unjust enrichment cause of action. The Plaintiff had the right to plead in the alternative. And with regard to the alter ego, there were sufficient, factual allegations made to at least proceed to see if a cause of action will exist.

I am going to grant it with one limited respect. I don't believe that the sufficient, factual basis was granted as to civil reco. And so I'll leave it up to the Plaintiff to amend, or just leave the complaint as is, and seek later to amend after discovery is taken.

So for that reason, motion to dismiss is granted only in one very small part and denied in other respects. So I'm going to go ahead and ta -- task you Mr. Couvillier, since it was granted and one's -- part, to draft the order here. And 30 days after entry of the order, for the Plaintiff either to determine whether or not it's going to amend the complaint on the civil reco, or not. And Mr. Thomas you have the ability to review and approve the form of the order.

Page 6 AA203

1	MR. COUVILLIER: Thank you, Your Honor.
2	THE COURT: Thank you, both.
3	MR. THOMAS: Thank you, Your Honor.
4	[Hearing concluded at 10:36 a.m.]
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21	ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the
22	audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled case to the best of my ability.
23	Burn Hillith
24	Brynn Griffiths
25	Court Recorder/Transcriber

Page 7

AA204

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Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT **ORDR** 1 **BLACK & LOBELLO** 2 Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 7661 3 10777 West Twain Avenue, Third Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 4 Ph. (702) 869-8801 Fax (702) 869-2669 5 mcouvillier@blacklobello.law Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC L.L.C. 6 7 DISTRICT COURT 8 9 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 10 11 ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST and SHAWN CASE NO.: A-17-764118-C 12 WRIGHT as trustee of ZION WOOD OBI WAN **DISTRICT COURT DEPT: 27** TRUST; WSOF GLOBAL, LLC, a Wyoming 13 limited liability company, ORDER RE: MMAWC, LLC's MOTION TO DISMISS AND TO COMPEL 14 Plaintiffs, **ARBITRATION** v. 15 16 MMAWC, LLC d/b/a WORLD SERIES OF FIGHTING a Nevada limited liability company; 17 MMAX INVESTMENT PARTNERS, INC. dba PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE, a 18 Delaware corporation; BRUCE DEIFIK, an individual; CARLOS SILVA, an individual; 19 NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY 20 PARTNERSHIP LLLP, a Colorado limited liability partnership; KEITH REDMOND, an 21 individual; DOES I through X, inclusive; and ROE Corporations XX through XXX, inclusive, 22 23 Defendants. 24 25

On February 21, 2018, the Court heard the *Motion to Dismiss and To Compel Arbitration* ("Motion") by Defendant MMAWC, LLC ("MMAWC"). Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. appeared on behalf of MMAWC. Byron Thomas, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiffs. The

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Court has considered the Motion, all related briefs and documents on file, and the argument of counsel. For good cause appearing:

- The Motion is GRANTED IN PART with respect to Plaintiffs' Eighth Cause of Action for RICO. Plaintiffs' Eighth Cause of Action for RICO is dismissed without prejudice. Plaintiffs have leave to amend their RICO claim and file an amended complaint after some discovery, but must inform the Court on or before March 23, 2018, whether they intend to amend their RICO claim; and
- 2). The Motion is **DENIED** in all other regards. The Court declines to compel arbitration because it finds the arbitration provision at issue is void pursuant to NRS 597.995.

Dated: March 7, 2018.

District Court Judge

Respectfully Submitted By,

**BLACK & LOBELLO** 

Maximiliano D. Couvillier [14] Boo, Bar #7661

mcouvillier@blacklobello.law

Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC, L.L.C.

Approved to Form and Content,

LAW OFFICE OF BYRON THOMAS

25

Byron Thomas, Esq., Bar #8906 byronthomaslaw@gmail.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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1	NOE	Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT		
1	NOE BLACK & LOBELLO	Stewn S. Line		
2	Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. (Bar No. 7661) 10777 West Twain Avenue, Third Floor			
3	Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 Ph. (702) 869-8801			
4	Fax (702) 869-2669 mcouvillier@blacklobello.law			
5	Attorneys for Defendants MMAWC, L.L.C			
6				
7	DISTRICT COURT			
8				
9	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA			
10				
11	ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST, and SHAWN	CASE NO.: A-17-764118-C		
12	WRIGHT as trustee of ZION WOOD OBI WAN	DEPT. NO.: 27		
13	TRUST; WSOF GLOBAL, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company,			
14	Plaintiff,	AMENDED NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER RE: MMAWC, LLC's MOTION		
15		TO DISMISS AND TO COMPEL		
16	V.	ARBITRATION		
17	MMAWC, LLC d/b/a WORLD SERIES OF FIGHTING a Nevada limited liability company;			
18	MMAX INVESTMENT PARTNERS, INC. dba PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE, a			
19	Delaware corporation; BRUCE DEIFIK, and			
20	individual; CARLOS SILVA, an individual; NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY			
21	PARTNERSHIP LLLP, a Colorado limited liability partnership; KEITH REDMOND, an			
22	individual; DOES I through X, inclusive; and			
23	ROE Corporations XX through XXX, inclusive,			
24	Defendants			
	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a ORDER RE: MM	AWC, LLC's MOTION TO DISMISS AND		
25	///			
26	///			
27	///			
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Page 1 of 2

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1	TO COMPEL ARBITRATION was entered in the above-entitled matter on the 13 <sup>th</sup> day of March
2	2018, a copy of which is attached hereto.
3	
4	Dated this 14 <sup>th</sup> day of March 2018.
5	BLACK & LOBELLO
6	
7	<u>/s/ Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq.</u> Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. SBN 7661
8	mcouvillier@blacklobello.law  Attorneys for Defendants
9	Miorneys for Defendants
10	
11	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
12	I certify that on this 14 <sup>th</sup> day of March 2018. I electronically filed the foregoing <b>NOTICE</b>
13	OF ENTRY OF ORDER RE: MMAWC, LLC's MOTION TO DISMISS AND TO COMPEL
14	<b>ARBITRATION</b> using the Court's electronic filing and service system, which provides service
15	to the following users:
16	LAW OFFICE OF BYRON THOMAS
17	Bryon Thomas, Esq., Bar #8906 Byronthomaslaw@gmail.com
18	Attorney for Plaintiff
19	
20	/a/Manialla Dumbuiana
21	<u>/s/ Mariella Dumbrique</u> An Employee of Black & LoBello
22	
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Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

### ORDR BLACK & LOBELLO

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Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 7661
10777 West Twain Avenue, Third Floor
Las Vegas, Nevada 89135
Ph. (702) 869-8801
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mcouvillier@blacklobello.law
Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC L.L.C.

#### DISTRICT COURT

### **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST and SHAWN WRIGHT as trustee of ZION WOOD OBI WAN TRUST; WSOF GLOBAL, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability company,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MMAWC, LLC d/b/a WORLD SERIES OF FIGHTING a Nevada limited liability company; MMAX INVESTMENT PARTNERS, INC. dba PROFESSIONAL FIGHTERS LEAGUE, a Delaware corporation; BRUCE DEIFIK, an individual; CARLOS SILVA, an individual; NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LLLP, a Colorado limited liability partnership; KEITH REDMOND, an individual; DOES I through X, inclusive; and ROE Corporations XX through XXX, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-17-764118-C DISTRICT COURT DEPT: 27

ORDER RE: MMAWC, LLC's MOTION TO DISMISS AND TO COMPEL ARBITRATION

On February 21, 2018, the Court heard the *Motion to Dismiss and To Compel Arbitration* ("Motion") by Defendant MMAWC, LLC ("MMAWC"). Maximiliano D. Couvillier III, Esq. appeared on behalf of MMAWC. Byron Thomas, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiffs. The

Court has considered the Motion, all related briefs and documents on file, and the argument of counsel. For good cause appearing:

- The Motion is GRANTED IN PART with respect to Plaintiffs' Eighth Cause of Action for RICO. Plaintiffs' Eighth Cause of Action for RICO is dismissed without prejudice. Plaintiffs have leave to amend their RICO claim and file an amended complaint after some discovery, but must inform the Court on or before March 23, 2018, whether they intend to amend their RICO claim; and
- The Motion is **DENIED** in all other regards. The Court declines to compel arbitration because it finds the arbitration provision at issue is void pursuant to NRS 597.995.

Dated: March 7, 2018.

District Court Judge

Respectfully Submitted By,

Maximiliano D. Couvillier [14] Boo, Bar #7661

mcouvillier@blacklobello.law

Attorneys for Defendant MMAWC, L.L.C.

Approved to Form and Content,

LAW OFFICE OF BYRON THOMAS

Byron Thomas, Esq., Bar #8906 byronthomaslaw@gmail.com Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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3/23/2018 3:32 PM
Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

CASE NO.: A-17-764118-C DISTRICT COURT DEPT: 27

MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT AND TO COMPEL ARBITRATION BY DEFENDANTS DEFENDANT BRUCE DEIFIK AND NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LLLP

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Defendants BRUCE DEIFIK ("Deifik") and the NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LLLP ("DF Partnership") move to dismiss the Complaint and compel arbitration. Deifik and DF Partnership understand that, on March 13, 2018, the Court entered an order ("03/13/18 Order") denying a similar motion to compel arbitration by MMAWC, LLC.

Deifik and DF Partnership are filing this instant motion to preserve their rights and then, respectfully, to join with MMAWC, LLC ("MMAWC") in appealing the Court's 03/13/18 Order pursuant to NRS 38.247(1)(a). In furtherance of judicial economy, Deifik and DF Partnership propose that the Court need not set their motion for hearing and that additional briefing is not necessary, as MMAWC Deifik and DF Partnership will be filing a notice of appeal and thus, triggering a stay of this action prior to normal-course hearing taking place. Accordingly, Deifik and DF Partnership are not including a "notice of motion" here.

This Motion is made and based upon the Memorandum of Points and Authorities below and the Court's record.

# **BLACK & LOBELLO**

Maximiliano D. Couvillie

Nevada Bar No. 7661

mcouvillier@blacklobello.law

Attorneys for Defendant Bruce Deifik and

The Nancy And Bruce Deifik Family Partnership LLLP

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# MEMORANDUNM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### FACTS RELEVANT TO DISMISSAL I.

Although the "factual allegations of [Plaintiffs'] complaint must be accepted as true,"1 "the filing of a motion to dismiss is not the same as an admission by Defendant that Plaintiff's allegations in the complaint are true."2

MMAWC's previous primary asset and business was operating and promoting mixed martial arts ("MMA") events under the marks and monikers "World Series of Fighting" and "WSOF," which intellectual property MMWAC owned. See e.g. 11/3/17 Complaint at ¶1. In 2016, MMAWC sold substantially all of its assets, including the "World Series of Fighting" and "WSOF" marks and monikers, to MMAX Investment Partners, Inc. ("MMAX"). MMAWC refocused its business from operating and promoting its own MMA events and became an investor in MMAX, and MMAX began operating and promoting its own MMA events under MMAX's marks and monikers "WSOF", "World Series of Fighting", and "Professional Fighter's League." Thus, MMAWC's current primary asset and operation is being an investor in MMAX.

This is an action whereby Plaintiffs are attempting to usurp certain interests they simply do not have. First, Plaintiffs allege that they somehow have certain licensing rights to the intellectual property of MMAX. Second, Plaintiffs allege that their interest in MMAWC have somehow been diluted because MMAWC became an investor and part owner in MMAX, and they are entitled to their own, individual interest in MMAX (as opposed to what they have now: an indirect interest in MMAX via their undiluted interest in MMAWC). Of course, this only a summary of Plaintiffs' claims and the Court is not being asked to determine the factual merits at this juncture but to dismiss the Complaint as matter of law, as demonstrated below.

Important here is that Plaintiffs' claims are contract-based, arising out of and concerning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bratcher v. City of Las Vegas, 113 Nev. 502, 507, 937 P.2d 485, 489 (1997).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> McNeil v. United States, 78 Fed. Cl. 211, 238 (Fed. Cl. 2007) aff'd, 293 F. App'x 758 (Fed. Cir. 2008). "Federal cases interpreting the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are 'strong persuasive authority, because

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several written agreements, which are all alleged in the Complaint. See e.g., 11/3/17 Complaint at ¶¶8, 10 & 53. At the top of the hierarchy of the agreements is a Confidential Settlement Agreement dated February 19, 2016 ("Settlement Agreement"). Id. at ¶8. A true and correct copy of the Settlement Agreement is attached here as Exhibit 1. Flowing underneath the Settlement Agreement are several other agreements that are part of and incorporated into the Settlement Agreement, which include a Fourth Amended And Restated Operating Agreement Of MMAWC, L.L.C. ("4th Operating Agreement") and Amendment to Consulting And Master Licensing Agreement ("Licensing Agreement"). See 11/3/17 Complaint ¶¶8, 10 & 53. A true and correct copy of the 4th Operating Agreement is attached here as Exhibit 2. A true and correct copy of the Licensing Agreement is attached here as Exhibit 3.

All of Plaintiffs' claims arise out of and concern the foregoing written agreements. The Licensing Agreement provides the following broad arbitration provision:

> 18. Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim or any other causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby), which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award, or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section, then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in

the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure are based in large part upon their federal counterpart." Las Vegas Novelty v. Fernandez, 106 Nev. 113, 119, 787 P.2d 772, 776 (1990)).

judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

See Exhibit 3 at p.10.

The broad arbitration provision not only applies to all claims concerning Plaintiffs alleged licensing rights under the Licensing Agreement, but to all claims concerning or arising from the Settlement Agreement and 4th Operating Agreement. As Plaintiffs admit, the terms and conditions of the underlying and associated Licensing Agreement and 4th Operating Agreement apply to the Settlement Agreement. See 11/3/17 Complaint ¶10 ("The Amended Operating Agreement was attached to the Settlement Agreement as an Exhibit and fully incorporated into the Settlement Agreement"), ¶110 (alleging that the Defendants "breached the Settlement Agreement..."). And thus, Plaintiffs' action is subject to mandatory arbitration. Plaintiffs have refused to arbitrate.

## II. LEGAL ARUGMENT

## A. The Standard for a Motion to Dismiss.

A party may move for dismissal of claims when a pleading fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. NRCP 12(b)(5). While courts consider "all factual assertions in the complaint to be true and draws all reasonable inferences in favor of the plaintiff," *Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp.*, 122 Nev. 621, 634-35, 137 P.3d 1171, 1180 (2006), to survive dismissal, a complaint must contain some "set of facts, which, if true, would entitle [the plaintiff] to relief." *In re Amerco Derivative Litig.*, 127 Nev. Adv. Op. 17, 252 P.3d 681, 692 (2011). An NRCP 12(b)(5) motion must be granted if the Plaintiff would be entitled to no relief under the facts set forth in the Complaint. *See Morris v Bank of America*, 110 Nev. 1274, 1277, 886 P. 2d 454, 457 (1994) (citing Edgar v Wagner, 101 Nev. 226, 227-228, 699 P.2d 110, 111-112 91985)); Cohen v Mirage Resorts, Inc., 119 Nev. 1, 62 P.3d 720, 734 (2003).

The review of a motion to dismiss is normally limited to the complaint itself, however, there are three exceptions to this rule:

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- 1) a court may consider documents properly submitted as part of the complaint on a motion to dismiss;
- 2) if documents are not physically attached to the complaint, incorporation by reference is proper if the document's authenticity ... is not contested and the plaintiff's complaint necessarily relies on
- 3) a court may take judicial notice of "matters of public record."

Lee v. Los Angeles, 250 F.3d 668, 688–89 (9th Cir.2001)<sup>3</sup>; Nevada ex rel. Hager v. Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP, 812 F. Supp. 2d 1211, 1214 (D. Nev. 2011); Goodwin v. Executive Tr. Servs., LLC, 680 F. Supp. 2d 1244, 1250 (D. Nev. 2010). Documents are incorporated by reference when a complaint "refers extensively to the document or the document forms the basis of the Plaintiff's claim." United States v. Ritchie, 342 F.3d 903, 907 (9th Cir.2003); see also Rosales-Martinez v. Palmer, ---F.3d---, 2014 WL 2462557 (9th Cir. June 3, 2014); Davis v. HSBC Bank Nevada, N.A., 691 F.3d 1152, 1160 (9th Cir. 2012). Trial courts may also consider judicially noticeable matters in addition to the allegations appearing on the face of the pleading. Nevada Revised Statute ("NRS") 47.130; Breliant v. Preferred Equities Corp., 109 Nev. 842, 847, 858 P.2d 1258, 1261 (1993).

"While the court is required, in ruling on a 12(b)([5]) motion to dismiss, to accept as true all material allegations in the complaint, the court may disregard factual allegations that are contradicted by facts that may be judicially noticed by the court, such as facts established by reference to documents attached as exhibits to the complaint." In re Metricom Sec. Litig., C 01-4085 PJH, 2004 WL 966291 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2004) aff'd sub nom. Young v. Dreisbach, 182 F. App'x 714 (9th Cir. 2006) (citing Sprewell v. Golden State Warriors, 266 F.3d 979, 988 (9th Cir.2001); Schwarz v. United States, 234 F.3d 428, 435 (9th Cir.2000); Durning v. First Boston Corp., 815 F.2d 1265, 1267 (9th Cir.1987)); see also, Bogie v. Rosenberg, 705 F.3d 603, 609 (7th Cir. 2013) ("When an exhibit incontrovertibly contradicts the allegations in the complaint, the exhibit ordinarily controls, even when considering a motion to dismiss."). "Where an exhibit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Federal cases interpreting the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are 'strong persuasive authority, because the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure are based in large part upon their federal counterpart." Las Vegas Novelty v. Fernandez, 106 Nev. 113, 119, 787 P.2d 772, 776 (1990)).

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and the complaint conflict, the exhibit typically controls." Bogie, 705 F.3d at 609; Hunt-Golliday v. Metro. Water Reclamation Dist. of Greater Chicago, 02 C 9199, 2004 WL 407012 (N.D. III. Mar. 4, 2004) aff'd 390 F.3d 1032 (7th Cir. 2004).

While the Court must assume that the facts as alleged in the counterclaim are true, the Court cannot "assume the truth of legal conclusions merely because they are cast in the form of factual allegations." Comm. for Reasonable Regulation of Lake Tahoe v. Tahoe Reg'l Planning Agency, 311 F. Supp. 2d 972, 984 (D. Nev. 2004) (quoting W. Mining Council v. Watt, 643 F.2d 618, 624 (9th Cir.), cert. denied, 454 U.S. 1031 (1981); see also Mirch v. Frank, 295 F. Supp. 2d 1180, 1183 (D. Nev. 2003). Furthermore, "conclusory allegations and unwarranted inferences are insufficient to defeat a motion to dismiss." Comm. for Reasonable Regulation of Lake Tahoe, 311 F. Supp. 2d at 984.

#### В. Plaintiffs' Claims Are Subject To Arbitration

Under Nevada law, this Court has the power to compel Plaintiffs to arbitrate their claims against moving Defendants by granting the instant motion to compel arbitration. NRS 38.221 states, in relevant part:

# NRS 38.221 Motion to compel or stay arbitration.

- 1. On motion of a person showing an agreement to arbitrate and alleging another person's refusal to arbitrate pursuant to the agreement:
- (a) If the refusing party does not appear or does not oppose the motion, the court shall order the parties to arbitrate; and
- (b) If the refusing party opposes the motion, the court shall proceed summarily to decide the issue and order the parties to arbitrate unless it finds that there is no enforceable agreement to arbitrate.
- \*\*\*
- 5. If a proceeding involving a claim referable to arbitration under an alleged agreement to arbitrate is pending in court. A motion under this section must be made in that court. Otherwise, a motion under this section may be made in any court as provided in NRS 38.246.

Id. (emphasis in original).

As stated above, the Licensing Agreement provides a broad mandatory arbitration clause,

which agreement and arbitration requirement Plaintiffs admit and allege are incorporated and are part and parcel of the related Settlement Agreement, which also ultimately governs the 4th Operating Agreement. Again, the relevant language of the arbitration provision states:

18. Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim or any other causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby)...

See Exhibit 3 at p. 10.

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"Strong public policy favors arbitration because arbitration generally avoids the higher costs and longer time periods associated with traditional litigation." D.R. Horton, Inc. v. Green, 120 Nev. 549, 553 96 P.3d 1159 (2004). The Nevada Supreme Court has further held:

Nevada courts resolve all doubts concerning the arbitrability of the subject matter of a dispute in favor of arbitration. Disputes are presumptively arbitrable, and courts should order arbitration of particular grievances unless it may be said with positive assurance that the arbitration clause is not susceptible of an interpretation that covers the asserted dispute.

Clark County Public Employees Ass'n v. Pearson, 106 Nev. 587, 591 798 P.2d 136 (1990)(internal citations and quotations omitted). Finally, the Nevada Supreme Court directs that arbitration clauses should be broadly construed in favor of compelling arbitration of claims:

Moreover, the U.S. Supreme Court has stated that, in cases involving broadly worded arbitration clauses, 'in the absence of any express provision excluding a particular grievance from arbitration, we think only the most forceful evidence of a purpose to exclude the claim from arbitration can prevail.'

Id. (quoting AT&T Technologies v. Communications Workers of America, 475 U.S. 643, 106 S.Ct. 1415 89 L.Ed.2d 648 (1986). See also State ex rel. Masto v. Second Judicial Dist. Court ex rel., 125 Nev. 37, 45 n. 5 199 P.3d 828 (2009)("an arbitration clause containing the phrase 'relating to' 'constitute[d] the broadest language the parties could reasonably use to subject their disputes to [arbitration].'")(quoting Fleet Tire Serv. V. Oliver Rubber, 118 F.3d 619, 621 (8th Cir. 1997). The Court should dismiss the Complaint and compel arbitration.

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#### The Arbitration Clause Was Negotiated, Jointly Drafted & Authorized By C. Plaintiffs And Does Not Violate NRS 597.995

To the extent applicable (see infra), NRS 597.995 provides a statutory framework to manifest express knowledge and agreement to arbitration clauses, giving arbitration provisions different treatment than other contractual provisions. NRS 597.995 is met here. The Licensing Agreement, and its Arbitration provision, were negotiated and jointly drafted by Plaintiff WSOF GLOBAL, LLC ("Global"), Global's predecessor, Global's controlling individuals, and their counsel (Byron Thomas, Esq.).

The Licensing Agreement was entered into just two years ago, on February 19, 2016, between MMAWC and Global's predecessor, WSOF Global Limited.4 The Licensing Agreement was initially drafted by WSOF Global Limited's counsel, Byron Thomas, Esq., in late January 2016. Mr. Thomas is also counsel of record of plaintiffs Global and Zion in the above-captioned matter. On January 26, 2016, counsel for MMAWC, Christopher Childs, Esq. responded to Mr. Thomas with several edits to Mr. Thomas' initial draft. Included in such edits was the addition of the Arbitration clause at Paragraph 18 of the Licensing Agreement. In addition to Mr. Thomas, his client and Zion's control person (Vince Hesser)<sup>5</sup> were also included among the recipients of Mr. Childs' January 26, 2016, response and inclusion of the Arbitration clause. Mr. Childs' January 26 response further confirms the conference call scheduled among the parties to discuss the Licensing Agreement, and various related documents, stating:

Christopher Childs <chris@childswatson.com>
Tue, Jan 26, 2016 at 11:55
To: Vince Hesser <vincohesser@yahoo.com>, "Antony M. Santos" <tony@amsantoslaw.com>, Byron Thomas
<a href="mailto:chrouter-state-stat

Attached is a redline of the license against the last draft that Byron sent me. Although I have reviewed the document you proposed with Keith Redmond, I have not had the chance to review it in detail with Carlos Silva or Bruce Deifik. Hopefully the attached draft and redline help move along our 1:30 toward a resolution.

Please use the following dial-in information for the call:

Dial in: 760-569-7171 Access Code: 207 555 532

Thank you,

Christopher R. Childs Childs Watson & Gallagher, PLLC 770 E. Warm Springs Road, Suite 225 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Email: chris@childswatson.com Office: 702-848-4533 Mobile: 702-606-1034

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> According to Plaintiffs, Global's successor is WSOF Global Limited. See 11/3/17 Compl. at ¶50. <sup>5</sup> See 11/3/17 Compl. at ¶5.

See Exhibit 4 at p. 1, which is a true and correct copy of Mr. Childs' email of January 26, 2016.6

The addition of the Arbitration was prominently identified in distinctive blue, underlined font that stood apart from the original text drafted by Mr. Thomas:

Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim or causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby), which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award. or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section, then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

See Exhibit 4 at page 13.

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<sup>6</sup> MMAWC's motion primarily challenges subject matter jurisdiction and seeks dismissal based on the parties' mutually agreed Arbitration agreement and thus, the Court may property consider the emails exchanged with Plaintiffs' counsel, Mr. Thomas, without converting MMAWC's motion to dismiss into a motion for summary judgment. "In a motion to dismiss based primarily on lack of subject matter jurisdiction... the Court may receive, among other forms of competent evidence, affidavits to resolve any factual dispute. The consideration of such evidence does not convert a motion to dismiss into one for summary judgment." Sudano v. Fed. Airports Corp., 699 F. Supp. 824, 825–26 (D. Haw. 1988)(citing Biotics Research Corp. v. Heckler, 710 F.2d 1375, 1379 (9th Cir.1983); Nat'l Expositions, Inc. v. DuBois, 605 F.Supp. 1206, 1207–8 n. 2 (W.D.Pa.1985). Exhibits 4, 5, and 6 were previously authenticated by Chris Childs, Esq. in his February 15, 2018. declaration in support of MMAWC's 2/15/18 Reply In Support of Motion to Dismiss (attached thereto as Exhibit 8).

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Mr. Thomas responded to Mr. Childs' revision on January 29, 2016. In his email, Mr. Thomas stated that: (a) his clients had reviewed Mr. Childs' January 26 draft of the Licensing Agreement (which included the Arbitration clause); and (b) he had some changes to the revised draft:

Chris it has taken longer to get this done than I thought. My clients are giving it one more look over, but I want to get something to you today.

#### 3 attachments

- 2Operating Agreement of MMAWC (4th AR) 012716a.docx
- 2Amendment to Consulting and License Agrmt 012816redline.docx
   34K
- 2Settlement Agreement 012816red.docx

See Exhibit 5 at p. 1, which is a true and correct copy of Mr. Thomas' email of January 29, 2016.

Neither Mr. Thomas nor his clients (Plaintiffs here) objected to the Arbitration clause; nor expressed any concerns that the clause did not comply with NRS 597.995 or was otherwise unenforceable. On the contrary, Mr. Thomas made edited the Arbitration Provision to, ironically, broadened the scope of the Arbitration provision:

Arbitration. MMA and Consultant agree that any dispute, controversy, claim, uncured breach or any other causes of action whether based on contract, tort, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory, related directly or indirectly to the Master License (as amended hereby). which cannot be amicably resolved by the parties, shall be resolved by binding arbitration in accordance with the provisions of this Section 18. Unless the parties agree to use other rules, or the arbitrator deems other rules to be applicable, the arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") in effect at the time the demand for arbitration is filed, and either the Federal Arbitration Act (Title 9, U.S. Code) or the applicable State of Nevada arbitration statute. The arbitration award or decision may be confirmed, entered and enforced as a judgment in a court having jurisdiction, subject to appeal only in the event of the arbitrator's misapplication of the law, no evidence to support the award, or such other grounds for appeal of arbitration awards that exist by statute, common law or the applicable rules. If any party commences litigation in violation of this Section 18, or refuses or neglects to timely submit to arbitration in accordance with this Section. then such party shall reimburse the other party(s) for costs and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees: (1) incurred in seeking abatement or dismissal of such litigation; and/or (2) incurred in judicially compelling arbitration. However, the foregoing does not preclude a party from seeking emergency relief, including injunctive relief, from a court of competent jurisdiction and the prosecution of a request for such emergency relief will not be deemed a breach or waiver of the provisions contained herein.

[signature page follows]

See Exhibit 5 at p. 12.

On February 10, 2016, Mr. Thomas confirmed that his clients, including WSOF Global Limited, accepted the revised Licensing Agreement, including the Arbitration clause:

On Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 12:09 PM, Byron Thomas < <a href="mailto:byronthomaslaw@gmail.com">byronthomaslaw@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Hello Chris. Have you guys had a chance to look at the documents? I know there was a delay on our part in getting them back to you, but we pretty much accepted all of Chris's changes from his last version, so I thought we would get this done in a day or so. If that is not going to happen please let me know. Deadlines in the litigation were pushed out until this Friday and I need to know if we are back in litgation [sic] mode. Thanks.

See Exhibit 6 at p. 2, which is a true and correct copy of Mr. Thomas' email of February 10, 2016.

Shortly thereafter, the Licensing Agreement was signed by Shawn Wright on behalf of WSOF Global Limited, as President of WSOF Global Limited. Mr. Wright is also the Managing Member of plaintiff Global and the control person and trustee of plaintiff Zion (11/3/17 Compl. at ¶5).

To the extent that NRS 597.995 could have any application here (which it does not, see infra.), there is absolutely no reasonable doubt that that Plaintiffs were given notice and specifically authorized and agreed to the Arbitration provision in the Licensing Agreement as otherwise required by NRS 597.995. Global (and Mr. Wright) were not only represented by Attorney Thomas in negotiating the Licensing Agreement and Arbitration clause, but Attorney Thomas himself jointly drafted the Licensing Agreement and a part of the Arbitration clause.

# D. NRS 597.995 Violates The Federal Arbitration Act And Does Not Preclude Arbitration Of Plaintiffs' Claims

In Fat Hat, LLC v. DiTerlizzi, the Nevada Supreme Court alluded to the fact that NRS 597.995 violates the Federal Arbitration Act:

Fat Hat makes no argument that the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. § 1, et seq., applies. We therefore do not address NRS 597.995's validity or application under the FAA. *But see Doctor's Associates, Inc. v. Casarotto*, 517 U.S. 681, 683 (1996).

Id., 385 P.3d 580, 2016 WL 5800335 \*1, n. 1 (Nev. 2016).

The Nevada Supreme Court is indeed correct, NRS 597.995 is displaced and preempted by the Federal Arbitration Act ("FAA"), 9 U.S.C. §1 et seq. Section 2 of the FAA provides:

A written provision in any maritime transaction or a contract evidencing a transaction involving commerce to settle by arbitration a controversy thereafter arising out of such contract or transaction, or the refusal to perform the whole or any part thereof, or an agreement in writing to submit to arbitration an existing controversy arising out of such a contract, transaction, or refusal, shall be valid, irrevocable, and enforceable, save upon such grounds as exist at law or in equity for the revocation of any contract.

Id. (emphasis added).

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In Doctor's Assocs., Inc. v. Casarotto, 517 U.S. 681, 116 S. Ct. 1652 (1996), the authority cited by the Nevada Supreme Court in Fat Hat, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that the FAA applies to state courts and trumps any state statute (like NRS 597.995) which single out arbitration provisions to void them in otherwise valid contracts. Specifically, the U.S. Supreme Court commands that "the FAA applies in state as well as federal courts and "withdr[aws] the power of the states to require a judicial forum for the resolution of claims which the contracting parties agreed to resolve by arbitration." Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 684, 116 S. Ct. at 1655 (internal quotations omitted)(citing Southland Corp. v. Keating, 465 U.S. 1, 12, 104 S.Ct. 852, 859 (1984)). Thus, the U.S. Supreme Court further commands that, per the FAA, "Courts may not ... invalidate arbitration agreements under state laws applicable only to arbitration provisions." Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 687, 116 S. Ct. at 1656. And here NRS 597.995 applies only to arbitration provisions and is therefore displaced and preempted by the FAA.

A main problem with NRS 597.995 is that is places arbitration clauses on an unequal footing vis-à-vis other contract provisions and settled contract law, giving arbitration provisions "suspect status." The U.S. Supreme Court reasons:

> States may regulate contracts, including arbitration clauses, under general contract law principles and they may invalidate an arbitration clause upon such grounds as exist at law or in equity for

the revocation of any contract..... What States may not do is decide that a contract is fair enough to enforce all its basic terms (price, service, credit), but not fair enough to enforce its arbitration clause. The Act makes any such state policy unlawful, for that kind of policy would place arbitration clauses on an unequal footing, directly contrary to the Act's language and Congress's intent.

Doctor's Assocs., Inc., 517 U.S. at 685–86, 116 S. Ct. at 1655 (emphasis added)(quoting Allied-Bruce Terminix Cos. v. Dobson, 513 U.S. 265, 281, 115 S.Ct. 834, 843 (1995)).

Therefore, NRS 597.995 does not preclude the Court from enforcing the parties' jointly negotiated, authorized and drafted Arbitration clause and dismissing Plaintiffs' Complaint in its entirety.

# III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant the Motion and dismiss the Complaint.

DATED: March 23, 2018

# **BLACK & LOBELLO**

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mcouvillier@blacklobello.law

Attorneys for Defendant Bruce Deifik and

The Nancy And Bruce Deifik Family Partnership LLLP

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on March 23, 2018, I electronically filed the foregoing MOTION TO DISMISS COMPLAINT AND TO COMPEL ARBITRATION BY DEFENDANTS DEFENDANT BRUCE DEIFIK AND NANCY AND BRUCE DEIFIK FAMILY PARTNERSHIP LLLP with the Court's electronic filing and service system, which provides electronic service to the following registered users:

Byron Thomas, Esq. (Bar 8906) 3275 S. Jones Blvd., Ste. 104 Las Vegas, NV 89146

Byronthomaslaw@gmail.com

/s/ Mariella Dumbrique
An Employee of Black & LoBello